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SOLOMON STURGES
AND HIS DESCENDANTS





SOLOMON STURGES

Æt. about 64. From a Photograph taken in Chicago
by Fassett, about 1860

SOLOMON STURGES AND HIS DESCENDANTS

*A Memoir
and a Genealogy*

COMPILED BY
EBENEZER BUCKINGHAM



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE compiler desires to thank the several members of the Sturges family, and others, who have kindly furnished him with information. And in particular he wishes to express his grateful appreciation of the charming and sympathetic sketch of Mrs. Lucy Hale Sturges contributed by her daughter, Mrs. Kate Sturges Benton; and his deep obligation to Mr. Charles Mathews Sturges for his cordial co-operation and efficient aid in gathering the material together, and to Mr. Frederick W. Gookin for his invaluable services in preparing the manuscript and seeing the book through the press. To Mr. James Buckingham especial thanks are due for the tables of the ancestors of Solomon and Lucy Hale Sturges.

MEMOIR OF
SOLOMON STURGES

MEMOIR OF SOLOMON STURGES

I

HIS ANCESTRY

Solomon Sturges was born April 21, 1796, in Fairfield, Connecticut, where his ancestors had lived for five generations. They were farmers of the sturdy New England type; upright, industrious, frugal, God-fearing and law-abiding. John Sturges, the first of the family in Fairfield, was living there in 1660, when he bought land in the town as noted later in these pages, and it is quite possible that his residence there may have long antedated that purchase. Owing to the destruction of many of the ancient records the exact date may never be determined, but the probabilities would seem to indicate that if he were not one of the little group of settlers by whom Fairfield was founded in 1639, he was among the very early comers there.

According to the family tradition, John Sturges was born in 1624, probably in England. Nothing is known with certainty as to his parentage. Full records showing his English extraction are said to have been in the hands of his great-great-grandson, Judge Jonathan Sturges¹ of Fairfield, and to have been destroyed, with

¹ Judge Sturges was born in Fairfield, August 23, 1740; graduated from Yale College, 1759; member of Revolutionary Committee of Public Safety for Connecticut; delegate from Connecticut to the Colonial Congress in 1774; representative from Connecticut in the U. S. Congress from 1789 to 1792; judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut from 1792 to 1805; LL.D. Yale College, 1806; died in Fairfield, October 4, 1819. He was descended from John Sturges through his eldest son Jonathan,² who married Susannah Banks and had Jonathan,³ who married

other family papers, when the Judge's home was burned by the British troops in 1779. It has been surmised that John Sturges was a son of Edward Sturgis, or Sturges,¹ eldest son of Philip Sturgis of Faxon, Northamptonshire, who emigrated to New England in or about 1634, in which year he settled in Sandwich, Massachusetts, where he resided until 1639, when he removed to Yarmouth, Cape Cod. He had a large family, but owing to deficiencies in the early records it is uncertain whether the list of his children, twelve in number, some of whom were born in England, is complete. The supposition that John Sturges o^c Fairfield was his son, must, however, be dismissed as untenable if the tradition that John was born in 1624 is accurate, for Edward had a son of the same name who was born on April 10 of that year. It is therefore probable that if Edward and John were kinsmen, the relationship between them was that of cousin, or perhaps that of uncle and nephew, rather than that of father and son.

In the year 1660, John Sturges purchased the homestead of Richard Fowles in Fairfield, which appears to have been located on the northwest side of the highway leading into Mill Plain. He was made a freeman on May 14, 1669. Later in the same year he was appointed Selectman. His wife was Deborah Barlow, daughter of John Barlow, one of the most prominent of the early settlers in Fairfield. No record of the marriage has been found, so that the date and locality of its solemnization remain undetermined, but, from the traditional ages of the children born of the union, it would seem probable that it took place at a date prior at least to 1650. Although John Barlow, strangely enough as it now seems,² was not made a freeman until May 14, 1669, when his name

Sarah Osborne and had Samuel⁴ who married, 1st, his cousin Elizabeth Sturges, daughter of David,³ and 2d, Ann Burr, the Judge's mother. Samuel Sturges' elder brother Jonathan⁴ married Jerusha Thompson; their daughter Sarah married Lothrop Lewis in 1727, and had Deborah Lewis, born in 1742, who became the wife of Judge Sturges.

¹ The name appears to have been spelled both ways indifferently in the early seventeenth century.

² The explanation may be that he had not become a member of the church until that year. In the early New England settlements none but church members were accorded full rights of citizenship.

heads the list of those admitted, followed by that of his son-in-law, John Sturges, he appears to have been a resident of the town before 1653, in which year he sold his lot on Ludlow Square, adjoining the Roger Ludlow homestead, and settled on the plain running northwest of Ludlow Square and Concord Field, which, in his honor was called "Barlow's Plain." In his will, dated March 28, 1674, he disposed of what was then regarded as a large estate, dividing it between his son and five daughters, Deborah, wife of John Sturges, being named among the latter.

John Sturges died in the year 1700, aged, so runs the family tradition, about 76. In his will, dated March 4, 1697¹, he gave to his son Jonathan, his homestead, his sword, and various parcels of land. To his son Joseph he gave his fowling piece, his long gun, and several parcels of land; to his son John, his little gun; to his daughter Deborah, wife of James Redfield, several parcels of land and his negro woman Jenny; to his grandson Christopher Sturges 5*l.*; to his son-in-law Richard Straten 5*s.*, and to said Straten's five children by his daughter Sarah, 5*l.* to be equally divided between them out of his movable estate; to his daughter Abigail, wife of Simon Couch, his negro boy Jack. The rest of his movable estate he divided between his two daughters Deborah and Abigail. To his absent son Thomas, "if he ever returned again," he gave 60*l.* out of the rest of his children's property. From this instrument, therefore, it appears that John and Deborah (Barlow) Sturges had at least seven ¹ children, viz.:

- I. Jonathan Sturges,
- II. Joseph Sturges,
- III. John Sturges,
- IV. Thomas Sturges,
- V. Deborah Sturges, who married James Redfield,
- VI. Sarah Sturges, who married Richard Stratton,
- VII. Abigail Sturges, who married Simon Couch.

¹ In "The Dimon Family," page 31, No. 42, it is stated that a "Mary Sturges, daughter of John Sturges" was married in 1719 to Ebenezer Bradley, but that statement involves such discrepancies in dates as would seem to make it substantially impossible that she could have been a daughter of John and Deborah (Bar-

Jonathan Sturges, the eldest son, married Susannah Banks, daughter of John Banks. According to the family tradition Jonathan's birth occurred in 1650; and that of Joseph in or about 1653. Little is known about Joseph Sturges, except that all his life was spent upon his farm in Fairfield, where he died in 1728, aged about 75. He was married twice. His first wife, who appears to have been the mother of all of his eleven children,¹ was Sarah Judson, daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah (Foote) Judson. After her death he took as a second helpmeet, Mary Sherwood, widow of Thomas Morehouse. She survived him, dying in 1746 aged about seventy-seven years.

The fifth son of Joseph and Sarah (Judson) Sturges, was Solomon, who was baptized in Fairfield, May 15, 1698, and was probably born a little earlier in the same year.² On March 8, 1724⁴/₅, he married his second cousin Abigail Bradley, who was the daughter, born in 1706, of Daniel and Abigail (Jackson) Bradley of Fairfield, and granddaughter of Francis Bradley, whose wife, Ruth Barlow, was a sister of Deborah Barlow, who married John Sturges. By her Solomon had three sons, Hezekiah, Joseph, and Judson, and a daughter, Esther, who married William Dimon.

low) Sturges, though she may have been the daughter of their son John—number ii in the list here given—who married, 1st, Mary Gardiner, and 2d, Abigail Wheeler.

¹ In the "Complete Lineage of the Sturges Families," by Alonzo Walton Sturges, these children are named as follows:

- I. Christopher Sturges
- II. Joseph Sturges
- III. David Sturges, b. 1696
- IV. Jeremiah Sturges
- V. Solomon Sturges, b. 1698
- VI. Sarah S. Sturges, b. 1699
- VII. Esther L. Sturges, b. 1700
- VIII. Benjamin Sturges, b. 1701
- IX. Abigail O. Sturges, b. 1702
- X. Jane Sturges, b. 1703
- XI. Deborah Sturges, b. 1708

² If the family tradition that he was eighty-six at the time of his death in 1779 is correct, it fixes the date of his birth in 1693. But against this is the fact that his four elder brothers were baptized together on May 24, 1696, and if Solomon were then three years old it seems highly probable that his parents would have had him baptized with the others.

Solomon Sturges was described by his grandchildren as a man of ardent temperament, a hater of all forms of tyranny and oppression, alert in mind and body, and notably "spry" in his movements. Living in a thriving community, surrounded by numerous relatives, his days passed quietly enough until the outbreak of the war of the revolution, by which he, in common with the colonists in general, was stirred to the depths. He was too old for campaigning, but all of his sons took an active part in the struggle; Hezekiah was a captain, Joseph was captured by the British and died on a prison ship in New York, Judson was killed in an encounter with tories on Long Island Sound. Solomon himself met with a tragic fate when on July 7, 1779, the British troops under General Tryon landed at Fairfield and pillaged and burned the town. The account of this brutal affair, as related by Bancroft,¹ gives such a graphic picture of the Fairfield of that day that it may well find a place in these pages.

"A pillaging expedition, sent to punish the patriotism of Connecticut, was intrusted to Tryon. . . . On the afternoon of the seventh, the expedition landed near Fairfield. The village, a century and a quarter old, situated near the water, with a lovely country for its background, contained all that was best in a New England community: a moral, well-educated, industrious people; modest affluence; well-ordered homes; many freeholders as heads of families; all of unmixed lineage, speaking the language of the English Bible. Early Puritanism had smoothed its rugged features under the influence of a region so cheerful and benign; and an Episcopal church, that stood by the side of the larger meeting-house, proved their toleration. A parish so prospering, with inhabitants so cultivated, had not in that day its parallel in England. The husbandmen who came together were too few to withstand the unforeseen onslaught. The Hessians were the first who were let loose to plunder, and every dwelling was given up to be stripped. Just before the sun went down, the firing of houses began, and was kept up through the night with little opposition, amidst the vain 'cries of distressed women and helpless children.' Early the next

¹ "History of America," Ed. 1876, vol. vi, pp. 209-210.

morning, the conflagration was made general. When at the return of night the retreat was sounded, the rear-guard, composed of Germans, set in flames the meeting-house and every private habitation that till then had escaped."

Still vigorous and active in spite of his years, when he heard that the British were disembarking Solomon Sturges mounted his horse and set off toward the beach, probably to attempt to rescue his cattle, though perhaps for the purpose indicated in the following account of the tragedy that followed. This account was written in his later years by Solomon's great-grandson and namesake, the subject of this memoir, and embodies the family tradition about the affair as related during the writer's boyhood by those who were eyewitnesses of the British attack.

"My father in my early days, often repeated the story of the dreadful day and more dreadful night that the enemy had possession of the town. My great-grandfather Solomon Sturges was too old to fight in the ranks of our small army; but in concert with another old man (both on horseback) endeavoured to make himself useful by acting as a scout. Upon hearing the alarm gun he at once mounted his old bay mare and proceeded toward the beach where it was said the British were landing their troops from their ships of war. . . . There was then, and I presume there is yet, an offset or turn in the road leading to the Sound, a few hundred yards south of the old Fairfield burying ground. My great-grandfather and his companion had made this turn and had advanced but two or three rods down the beach lane when they discovered through the fog the red coats of the British soldiers close upon them. They wheeled their horses and as they did so were fired at by the front platoon of the column, and my great-grandfather received a musket ball in his back. He was able, however, to remain on his horse until he had passed the Court House, and his companion who being unhurt was enabled to ride ahead, saw him carefully get from his old mare on and over the fence and (being no doubt entirely unable to walk) creep upon his hands and knees to a bunch of elder bushes by the roadside. The precise spot was pointed out to me by my father, in my early life; it was between the jail

(then upon the corner east of the big pond) and the academy. The old gentleman companion then rode rapidly to my grandfather's house and reported to the excited household these facts. While he was yet speaking the old bay mare came to the house. The saddle was almost covered with blood. The tale it told, though mute, was expressive. All was confusion, and all were filled with alarm. Other places had been burnt and all knew too well what the fate of Fairfield was to be. My grandfather and several of his older sons had before this seized their guns and gone to the rendezvous of their company. Two carts were hastily loaded with the most valuable household goods and the women and youngest children being placed in the carts or walking by the side, the cavalcade moved off toward Greenfield Hill. . . . The Hessians applied the torch to both of my grandfathers' houses. . . . The enemy, if I remember aright, held possession of the town but little over twenty-four hours. Our forces being rapidly increased by the coming in of the militia from the surrounding towns were busy popping away from behind stone fences, cedar bushes or anything that afforded concealment or protection. As soon as the enemy commenced a retreat toward their ships my grandfather and his sons were on hand to search for 'grandfather Solomon' as he was of course called by my father and his brothers. They knew where to look and found him in that thicket of elder bushes, dead, yes of course, with one bullet hole and six or seven severe bayonet stabs. He was without doubt found by those infernal Hessians, with life yet not quite extinct, and *finished* with the bayonet." ¹

The members of the Sturges family were large sufferers by the British raid on Fairfield. Their pecuniary losses have been estimated at five hundred pounds sterling,² in those days a large sum in such a community. It is said that the invading troops had a merry feast in the house of Captain Hezekiah Sturges during the

¹ See letter by Rev. Andrew Eliot of Fairfield, written at the time of this outrage, printed in Mass. Hist. Soc. Collections, Vol. III, Series I, and in "History of Fairfield County."

² See "Complete Lineage of the Sturges Families," by Alonzo Walton Sturges.

night they spent on shore. When they left they set the dwelling afire and it was burned to the ground. The next winter Hezekiah hauled timber and in the spring began to build anew. He put up the frame for a large house and finished it gradually as time and his means permitted. The kitchen ran the length of the house and above it was a room of equal dimensions, the use of which was accorded by him to the Episcopalians for public worship until they were able to rebuild their church which the "red coats" had destroyed. That courtesy illustrates a liberality in religious toleration which has been characteristic of the Sturges blood, for Hezekiah was, it is understood, of long descended Puritan beliefs, and the courtesy was extended at a day when in New England those of Puritan stock were often imbued with dislike and even hatred of the Church of England, identified in their minds with the persecutions to escape which their forefathers had fled to America.

Hezekiah Sturges was born in Fairfield in 1726, and died there April 27, 1792, "in the 67th year of his age" says the inscription upon his tombstone. His wife, whom he married on November 21, 1751, was Abigail Dimon, who was born in Fairfield, February 1, 173 $\frac{2}{3}$, and died there on November 21, 1803, the fifty-second anniversary of her wedding day. She was the daughter of Ebenezer and Mary (Burr) Dimon of Fairfield, the granddaughter of Moses and Jane (Pinkney) Dimon of Fairfield, the great-granddaughter of Moses and Abigail (Ward)¹ Dimon of Fairfield, and the great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Dimon (or Dimond or Demman), mariner, of Pequonnock, now North Bridgeport. Through her mother Abigail was a descendant of John Barlow, and was, therefore, her husband's first cousin. The Sturges and Dimon families were very closely interrelated. Sarah Dimon, Abigail's younger sister, married Hezekiah's brother Joseph Sturges, and her brother William Dimon married his sister, Esther Sturges.

Hezekiah and Abigail (Dimon) Sturges had nine children: Ebenezer, born August 8, 1752, was a sea captain, and died in Jamaica, of smallpox, December 25, 1795; Dimon, of whom more presently;

¹ Abigail Ward was the daughter of Andrew and Hester, or Esther (Sherman) Ward of Fairfield.

SARAH PERRY STURGES

Æt. about 75. From the Portrait painted toward the end of her life

Hezekiah, born November 24, 1756, died unmarried, December 16, 1839; Solomon, born February 10, 1759, died aged about forty years, was found dead in his berth on the arrival of his vessel in Boston; Eunice, born July 31, 1761, who married Nathaniel Perry of Fairfield; Edward, born December 2, 1762 (or 1763), died August 25, 1826, and Samuel, born March 1, 1766, both of whom, as well as Hezekiah, lived in Fairfield; Abigail, born May 9, 1768, who married Allen Nichols of Fairfield; and Mary (or Polly), born September 3, 1770, and died in New York city at a great old age, who married her kinsman, Captain Barnabas Lothrop Sturges of Southport, and was the mother of Jonathan Sturges, the wealthy New York merchant.

Dimon Sturges, the second of these children, was born in Fairfield, October 29, 1754, and after a long and for the most part an uneventful life, died there January 16, 1829. He married Sarah Perry daughter of Ebenezer and Martha (Sherwood) Perry of Fairfield. "My father and mother," their son Solomon wrote many years afterward, "as I always understood, had agreed about their life partnership before the breaking out of the revolutionary war, but after the commencement of hostilities, their marriage was postponed for brighter prospects and they were not married until a short time before Fairfield was burned. My grandfather Sturges was rendered poor by losses suffered during the revolutionary struggle. My grandfather Perry had not suffered as much, as the Hessians and Tories did not get quite as far north as his residence in their work of destruction. It was as much as both of them could well accomplish to build a house, barn, etc., for father and get the young couple fixed comfortably at housekeeping."

Sarah (Perry) Sturges was born in Fairfield, September 21, 1761, and died in Mansfield, Ohio, at the residence of her son Edward, May 7, 1846.

Dimon and Sarah (Perry) Sturges had ten children all born in Fairfield: Mary (or Polly), the eldest, was born March 4, 1780, and died at the age of seven; Esther, the second daughter, was born January 24, 1782, and died, unmarried, in Putnam, Ohio, September 28, 1829; Eben Perry, the eldest son, was born Au-

gust 12, 1784, and died in Mansfield, Ohio, January 1, 1862; Sarah, the third daughter, was born December 4, 1786, was married March 31, 1812, to Ebenezer Buckingham of Putnam, Ohio, and died there April 9, 1815; Dimon, the second son, was born April 11, 1789, and was lost at sea, being swept from the deck of his vessel in a storm, on November 4, 1808; Mary, the fourth daughter, was born November 23, 1791, was married to Chester Welles of Putnam, Ohio, and died there September 27, 1858; Hezekiah, the third son, was born January 3, 1794, and died in Putnam, Ohio, July 29, 1878; Solomon, the fourth son and the subject of this memoir, was born April 21, 1796; Amelia, the fifth daughter, was born November 5, 1799, was married to Austin A. Guthrie of Putnam, Ohio, and died there September 3, 1882; Edward, the fifth son and youngest child, was born December 5, 1805, and died in Mansfield, Ohio, September 16, 1878.

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orah Barlow	46 { John Barlow 47 { Abigail Lockwood	92 { John Barlow 93 { Ann ——— 94 { Robert Lockwood 95 { Susan St. John	
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rah Sanford March 25, 1666	62 { Ezekiel Sanford 63 { Rebecca Mickle		full 15, 17

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF THE ANCESTORS OF SOLOMON STURGES

COMPILED BY JAMES BUCKINGHAM
of Zanesville, Ohio

Double the number before any name and you have that of the father; add one to the doubled number and you have that of the mother.

Polly Sturges
b. Mar. 4, 1780
d. May 2, 1787

Ezher Sturges
b. Jan. 24, 1782
d. Sept. 28, 1829

Eben Perry Sturges
b. Aug. 12, 1784
d. Jan. 1, 1762
m. 1st, Amanda Bucking-
ham
m. 2d, Jerusha Merrick
Hale
m. 3d, Ruth M. Tracy

Sarah Sturges
b. Dec. 4, 1786
d. Apr. 9, 1815
m. Ebenezer Buckingham

Dimon Sturges
b. Apr. 11, 1789
d. Nov. 4, 1808

Mary Sturges
b. Nov. 23, 1791
d. Sept. 27, 1838
m. Chester Welles

Ezekiah Sturges
b. Jan. 3, 1794
d. July 29, 1878
m. Maria Allen

Solomon Sturges
b. Apr. 21, 1796
d. Oct. 14, 1804
m. Lucy Hale

Amelia Sturges
b. Nov. 5, 1799
d. Sept. 3, 1882
m. Austin A. Guthrie

Edward Sturges
b. Dec. 16, 1805
d. Sept. 16, 1878
m. Mary Matthews

2 Dimon Sturges
b. Oct. 29, 1754
d. Jan. 16, 1829

m. Feb. 13, 1779

3 Sarah Perry
b. Sept. 21, 1761
d. May 7, 1816

4 Captain Ezekiah Sturges
b. —, 1726
d. Apr. 27, 1792

5 Abigail Dimon
b. Feb. 1, 1732-3
d. Nov. 21, 1803

6 Ebenezer Perry
b. —, 1737
d. —, 1804

7 Martha Sherwood
b. May 9, 1739
d. —, 1814

8 Solomon Sturges
b. 1698 (perhaps
1693)
d. July 7, 1779

9 Abigail Bradley

10 Ebenezer Dimon
b. —, 1701
d. May 28, 1746

11 Mary Burr
bap. Jan. 4, 1708
d. Sept. 12, 1766

12 Joseph Perry
b. —, 1677
d. Aug. 9, 1753

13 Mary Clagston
Third wife

14 Daniel Sherwood
b. —, 1708
d. —, 1784

15 Martha Hull
b. June 15, 1701

16 Joseph Sturges
b. 1633; d. 1728

17 Sarah Judson

18 Daniel Bradley,
b. 1673

19 Abigail Jackson

20 Moses Dimon, b.
Oct. 7, 1672;
d. Aug. 7, 1748

21 Jane Pinkney

22 John Burr

23 Deborah Barlow

24 Nathaniel Perry
b. 1652; d. 1682

25 Hester Lyon

26 Michael Clagston
b. Sept. 18, 1678

27 Mary Wakeman
d. July 23, 1710

28 Samuel Sherwood,
d. 1725

29

30 Cornelius Hull

31 Sarah Sanford
b. March 25, 1666

32 John Sturges
b. 1624; d. 1700

33 Deborah Barlow

34 Jeremiah Judson

35 Sarah Foote

36 Francis Bradley,
b. 1627
37 Ruth Barlow, d. 1689

38 Joseph Jackson

39 Mary Godwin

40 Moses Dimon
b. 1642; d. 1684

41 Abigail Ward

42 Philip Pinkney

43

44 Nathaniel Burr

45 Hannah Goodyear

46 John Barlow

47 Abigail Lockwood

48 Richard Perry, d. 1658

49 Richard Lyon, d. 1678

50

51

52 Lieut. Joseph Wakeman

53 Elizabeth Burr

56 Thomas Sherwood,
b. 1637

57 Ann Turney

58

59

60 Cornelius Hull
d. Mar. 14, 1737

61 Rebecca Jones, d. 1744

62 Ezekiel Sanford

63 Rebecca Mickle

66 John Barlow

67 Ann —

68 William Judson

69 Grace —

70 Nathaniel Foote

71 Elizabeth Deming

76 Henry Jackson

77

78 George Godwin

79

80 Thomas Dimon

81

82 Andrew Ward, d. 1665

81 Hester Sherman

166 { Rev. J. Sherman
b. 1613; d. 1675

88 John Burr

89 — Stedman

90 Stephen Goodyear

91

92 John Barlow

93 Ann —

94 Robert Lockwood

95 Susan St. John

108 Rev. Samuel Wakeman

109 Hannah Goodyear

110 Major John Burr

111 Susan Filet

112 Thomas Sherwood

113 Alice —

114 Benjamin Turney

115 Mary —

120 George Hull, d. Aug. 22, 1614

121 Thomazio Mitchell

122 Rev. John Jones

123

124 Thomas Sanford

125

240 { Thomas Hull

241 {

248 { Anthony Sanford

249 {

II

HIS EARLY LIFE

An old man's recollections of his boyhood, even if incomplete, or, it may be, inaccurate in all details, are usually faithful in their presentation of the outward aspect of the things recalled to memory.

"My father's house," wrote Solomon Sturges toward the end of his life, "was nearly of square form. The kitchen was not only for cooking, but was used alternately as a kitchen and a dining room. There was an enormous chimney in the centre of the house, the whole west side of which was occupied by the kitchen, fireplace, and the oven at the north end of it. It has been over thirty years since I saw it, but I think the width of the fireplace was not less than eight feet. . . . When the neighbors came in on a winter evening, and I had been sent with the old 'grandfather tankard' into the cellar to fill it with cider, after I had waited upon the circle ranged round the fire, I would take a seat upon a stool within one of the jambs of the fireplace, while my brother Hezekiah or Edward would occupy the opposite corner. Then the exploits of the Revolutionary War would be rehearsed. All the men had participated in one battle or another; some fierce encounter by land or water. How many stories of skirmishes with the Tories that came over from Long Island in whale boats! What one did not know or recollect another would.

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"My mother and elder sisters would be busy at various household employments. When nothing more important was to be done the spinning wheels were brought forward and it was no uncommon thing for three of them to be going at once. My mother

was a worker. She was an excellent housekeeper and she was as good as she was industrious. She was all softness to her children. She loved us so dearly that she could not bear to give us pain, and I have no doubt that her extreme tender-heartedness and maternal love saved me from many a deserved whipping.

"My father kept a flock of sheep, the wool from which was manufactured in the family and furnished our winter clothing. Flax was a staple product, and its preparation and manufacture into linen was no small part of the winter employment of the household. All the shirting and sheeting of the household was of linen, all the summer wear of the boys and much of that of the girls. Long checked aprons, made for use, were a common article of dress. My mother understood the art of colouring the fabrics made in the household, and occasionally a piece of carpeting was made. Breaking and dressing flax was a common employment, in the winter days, for my father and my elder brothers during my school days. . . . The common winter clothing of us boys was a warm grey coating, being a mixture of the black and white wool, and this was 'fulled' at Sherwood's Fulling Mill about half a mile from my father's house. One long piece of this fulled coating, and another of nice blue cloth, was yearly made for the use of my father and my brothers. When we had a surplus it was sold or bartered for something we wanted. Industry and frugality were the order of the day, and of all the days. Taxes must be paid, and money must be had for that purpose, and also for many other things. What little money was received from sales of the products of the farm, or household manufactures, was carefully husbanded."

Eben Perry, the eldest of the boys, had left home at the age of fourteen, when Solomon was only two years old. Taking service on a merchantman owned by one of his relatives, he developed such aptitude and reliability that at sixteen he was first officer and before he was twenty-one he was master and half owner of the large schooner "Madisonia," equipped for transatlantic and South American commerce. By the time Solomon reached the age of twelve or thirteen, the question as to what should be his life pursuit was a subject for frequent family consultation, and finally

it was decided that he should "learn the sea" with Eben. As a preparation for this—to quote his own words—his "district school education was finished up by the study of navigation and a year at the academy." In October, 1810, being then in his fifteenth year, he joined Eben in New York, and they set sail for Georgetown, D. C., whence they were to take a cargo for Lisbon. The voyage to Chesapeake Bay proved a rough one, and Solomon suffered so intensely from seasickness that before the mouth of the Potomac was reached his ardor for a seafaring career was much abated. And when, a few days later, Elisha Williams, a prosperous merchant of Georgetown, with whom Eben Sturges had business, was prepossessed by Solomon's appearance, and offered him a position in his counting room until Eben should return from across the Atlantic, and longer if, on better acquaintance, both parties should be satisfied, he accepted with alacrity, after consultation with his brother. He was taken into Mr. Williams' household and was very kindly treated during the two years he remained in that employment.

When war against England was declared in 1812, Mr. Williams retired from business, and Solomon, upon his recommendation, took a position as clerk in the grocery store of John Hersey at Georgetown. About this time he received word that his brother's vessel, the "Madisonia," on her return voyage from Pernambuco, had been captured by a British frigate, and that Eben was a prisoner in Spanish Town, Jamaica. Being deeply attached to his brother, this news distressed Solomon greatly. After suffering much hardship and passing through an attack of yellow fever, Eben was released upon parol and returned to the United States. As soon as he had regained sufficient strength to undertake the journey, he went to Ohio to visit his sister Sarah, who, on March 31, 1812, had been married to Ebenezer Buckingham, one of the Ohio pioneers, who was born in Fairfield County, Connecticut, and who had then, for several years, been located in Springfield (shortly afterward renamed as Putnam, and now a part of the city of Zanesville), near the head of navigation on the Muskingum river, where he was a prosperous merchant. The interior of the

state of Ohio was then for the most part an unbroken wilderness, traversed only by rough trails. Here and there was the rude beginning of a village, or the detached log cabin of some hardy pioneer; but, safety from Indian hostilities having at last become fairly assured, settlers were rapidly pouring in.

Foreseeing the opportunities afforded by this new country, Eben decided to abandon the sea, and to make Ohio his home. Returning east, he formed a partnership with his kinsman, Buckingham Sherwood, and they bought a stock of merchandise which they transported in wagons to Zanesville, and thence, with great difficulty, north as far as Mansfield, en route to General Harrison's camp on the frontier. At the solicitation of the handful of settlers then in Mansfield, which is beautifully situated in a fertile region on almost the exact summit of the watershed between the Ohio river and Lake Erie, they were persuaded to stop there and to open a store. In this way did Eben chance to locate in Mansfield, where he spent the remainder of his days. The business prospered from the outset. Enterprising and energetic, he soon laid the foundation of his fortune, and became one of the most influential men in northern central Ohio. A few years after he settled in Mansfield he brought his youngest brother Edward Sturges there and made him his partner, Mr. Sherwood retiring. The firm of E. P. & E. Sturges built up a large and profitable business, trading over an extended area in the progressively developing adjacent territory. During all of the many years it continued it bore an enviable reputation, and was one of the most highly respected mercantile houses in that section of the country.¹

¹ Eben Perry Sturges died in Mansfield, January 1, 1862. He was married three times. By his first wife, Amanda Buckingham (born February 7, 1804; married August 15, 1824; died September 19, 1830), daughter of Stephen and Esther (Cooley) Buckingham, he had three sons; (1) Dimon Sturges, born October 21, 1825, died in Mansfield, March 18, 1900—a merchant of that city; (2) Colonel Stephen Buckingham Sturges of Brooklyn, New York, who was born March 12, 1827, and died in Brooklyn, December 19, 1897; (3) Edward Sturges of Buffalo, and later of Geneva, New York, who was born February 1, 1829, and died in Canandaigua, New York, in November, 1899. By his second wife, Jerusha Merrick Hale (born September 19, 1797; married September 15, 1834; died April 25, 1847), daughter of Benjamin and Martha (Welles) Hale, Mr. Sturges had a son (4) Henry Hale



SOLOMON STURGES

Æt. about 39. From the Portrait painted about 1835, in the possession of Mrs. Buckingham Sturges. The window in the background affords a glimpse of the old mill and wooden bridge across the Muskingum at Zanesville, Ohio, and the "dug road" under the bluff on the Putnam side of the river



When Washington was threatened with an attack by the British, Solomon Sturges joined a volunteer artillery company that was organized to aid in defending the cities of the District of Columbia, and for a short time was stationed at Fort Washington on the Potomac. Among his fellow privates in this service were George Peabody, afterward eminent as a banker and philanthropist, and Francis Key, the author of "The Star Spangled Banner." On the return of the company to Georgetown, Solomon found a letter from his brother-in-law, Ebenezer Buckingham, inviting him to come out to Ohio and enter his store as a clerk. This he decided to do and the journey was taken in the spring of 1814. His account of it should be of interest to his descendants.

"In May or June, 1814, I left Georgetown and took a stage, or what was then called a stage, for Pittsburgh, going by Chambersburgh and Bedford. The road was exceedingly rough as it was years before the turnpike was constructed, and the journey was slow; but I was buoyant with hope and expectation. On arriving at Pittsburgh I found the Ohio river rather low and no boat ready to leave. I was anxious to go ahead, and finding at the tavern I had stopped at, two young men, one of whom wanted to go to Louisville, and the other to Cincinnati, we clubbed together and bought a skiff. We then busily set to work and fixed an awning over the skiff, so as to partially shelter us from the sun and from rain, and, procuring some provisions, we put out on the Ohio, upon our river voyage. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon when we started, and we took alternate turns at rowing. Before morning it commenced raining, our hands became blistered, and on arriving at Wheeling we were a sorry looking set of young Sturges, born December 1, 1835, now living in Mansfield; and a daughter (5) Amanda Sturges, born January 18, 1840, who was married June 14, 1865, to Colonel Addison Augustus Hosmer of Washington, D. C. (born Oakdale, Massachusetts, February 28, 1833), son of Eben and Mary (Cheney) Hosmer. By his third wife, Ruth Maria Tracy whom he married in 1850, Mr. Sturges had no issue.

Edward Sturges, the junior partner, died in Mansfield, September 16, 1878, in his seventy-third year. He married in Putnam, Ohio, July 5, 1837, Mary Sturges Mathews, daughter of Dr. Increase and Betsey (Levens) Mathews of Putnam, and was the father of Charles Mathews Sturges, who was born in Mansfield, May 8, 1838, and of five other sons and three daughters.

navigators. There we learned that a 'Barge' had just before left for Cincinnati, and notwithstanding our blistered hands we followed as hard as we could row, and to our great joy we overhauled her not many miles below, and the kind Frenchman who commanded her permitted us to tie our skiff to his boat, and we took shelter under the roof of his comparatively large vessel. The 'Barge' was the boat in which the commerce of that period was carried on from Pittsburgh to New Orleans, and many, perhaps most of them, were owned and commanded by Frenchmen. Two trips a year from New Orleans to Pittsburgh and back were about their performance. They took up sugar, molasses, cotton, and groceries of various kinds, and took down whiskey, flour, bacon, pork, and other products of the western states and territories. We dried our clothes, and then went to sleep upon the Captain's buffalo robes which were hospitably spread for our comfort.

"We had quite a good time on this Barge until we reached Marietta where I landed. I gave to my two companions my interest in the skiff and unconsumed stock of provisions and soon found my way to the store of Mr. D. Woodbridge who Mr. Buckingham had written me would assist me in getting some conveyance to Springfield, as Putnam was then called. With his assistance a horse was hired, saddle bags borrowed, and a part of my scanty wardrobe was transferred to them from a not very large trunk which then contained my worldly possessions. I stayed until the next morning at quite a comfortable hotel upon the bank of the river, and after an early breakfast started for Springfield. The ride was rather a lonesome one, having no company. I had obtained the names of the places or taverns I should want to stop at, and on the following day, toward evening, arrived at Zanesville¹ and was ferried over the Muskingum to Springfield (now Putnam) which proved to be my home for so many years. My brother-in-law, Mr. Buckingham, and my sister Sarah, were expecting me, and received me with open arms. I had not seen my

¹ The accomplishment, in so short a time, of this journey of about eighty miles over a rough trail leading through a strange country, must be accounted a very creditable performance.

sister since the fall of 1810, and Mr. Buckingham I had never seen before. I was made to feel at home at once, and after a day or two of rest, was installed in my situation as clerk, and soon found my place was no sinecure."

In this environment Solomon was not long in giving evidence of unusual business ability. He had just entered upon his nineteenth year. By nature industrious, energetic and intellectually alert, and although yet so young, having these qualities already favorably developed by his years of residence in Georgetown under excellent influences, he found in his brother-in-law, who was a man of force and marked ability, just the one to give further impetus and direction to his talents. The very next winter he was sent to Philadelphia to buy goods—a trust which well indicates the degree in which he had almost at once approved himself. It was a sad winter in Mr. Buckingham's household. His infant son John, born at the end of October, died on Christmas day; in February his son Ebenezer, aged fourteen months, passed away; and with the opening of spring came the hardest blow of all, in the death, on April 9, 1815, of his beloved wife Sarah, Solomon Sturges' sister.

Active work is the most potent healer of the bereaved, and in the busy young community where they lived, the stricken husband and brother were given little opportunity to nurse their grief. In the spring of 1816 Mr. Buckingham decided to take his clerk, Solomon Sturges, and his own younger brother, Alvah Buckingham, into partnership with him, giving each of them a quarter interest, and on April 6 of that year the firm of E. Buckingham, Jr., & Co. was formed. Ebenezer Buckingham, the senior partner, was then aged thirty-eight; his brother Alvah was thirteen years his junior; and Solomon Sturges still lacked fifteen days of being twenty years old.

The location of Putnam in the midst of a fertile and rapidly developing section of the country, situated on the bank of a navigable river leading into the Ohio, then the great highway between Pittsburgh and the west and south, was, in the days before the advent of railway transportation, exceptionably favorable. From

the beginning the profits of the new firm were large. Its activities extended over a considerable extent of territory, and it soon became widely known and highly esteemed.

In the spring of 1817, Solomon went to New Orleans with four flat boats laden with produce, and returned to Ohio by land. "It was then," he wrote in his reminiscences of his early life, "an unbroken wilderness from Lake Pontchartrain to the Tennessee river, and the trail, or bridle path, was not always easily kept. We were a little over thirty days performing the journey home, and glad enough was I when I arrived there." While in New Orleans he was among the enthusiastic throng that hailed the arrival at that city of the "Washington," the first steamboat on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, except a crude affair that made the down trip in 1811 but did not attempt a return voyage. In the autumn of the same year, having gone to Detroit to take funds to Governor Cass to pay off troops, he witnessed the arrival there of "Walk in the Water," the first steamboat to ply the waters of the great lakes. These journeys illustrate the active life led by the enterprising merchant in the "western country" at that period. In addition there were annual visits to the cities on the Atlantic seaboard, to buy goods. By Mr. Sturges these visits were continued through a long series of years and thus he was enabled to keep in close touch with his relatives in "the East," and to build up a considerable circle of friends and acquaintances there.

Shortly after the formation of the new firm, Ebenezer Buckingham left the business in charge of his partners and journeyed to Glastonbury, Connecticut, where, on August 5, 1816, he married Eunice Hale, daughter of Benjamin and Martha (Welles) Hale, whose acquaintance he had made while she was in Zanesville visiting her cousin, the wife of Dr. Reed. Travel in the West was at that time a matter of difficulty and often of hardships. The return trip of the couple was made across the Allegheny mountains on horseback, there being then no roads for wagons. They were accompanied by the bride's younger sister, Anna Hale, who, in 1819, became the wife of Alvah Buckingham.

In 1821, Lucy Hale, the youngest daughter of Benjamin and



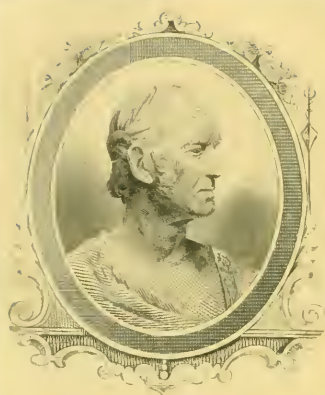
LUCY HALE STURGES

.Et. about 35. From the Portrait painted about 1835, in the
possession of Mrs. Buckingham Sturges



Martha (Welles) Hale, made the journey from Connecticut to visit her two married sisters and other relatives living in Putnam. Solomon Sturges appears early to have been attracted by her admirable traits, but perhaps because his business took him so much away from home at that period (he was absent for a long while in 1821, making a voyage to New Orleans, and thence by sea to Philadelphia, being stricken on shipboard by a fever by which he was prostrated for some weeks after arriving at his destination), more than a year seems to have elapsed before they became formally engaged. His own account of his engagement is as follows:

“Lucy expected to return to her home in Connecticut in 1823, but before the time came I had made an agreement with her that my sister, who was visiting in Ohio, should return [to Connecticut] with her, and she was to return to Ohio with me as my bride. This was the most important bargain I ever made. We were married in August of that year, at her father’s home on the banks of the Connecticut, and during the thirty-six years we lived together it was almost always sunshine in our household. Her cheerful, happy temperament, and kind, sympathetic heart always made my home pleasant; the magnetic influence she always imparted to it, always drew me so strongly that when called away by business, my thoughts would flit back, ‘like the needle to the pole.’”



SOLOMON STURGES
From the Marble Bust by Hiram Powers

THE BUCKINGHAM FIRM

The nine years following Mr. Stanger's marriage were years of steadily increasing prosperity. Then in August, 1802, their even flow was rudely disturbed by the sudden death of his brother-in-law and partner, Ebenezer Buckingham, who lost his life by the falling of one of the spans of the very important bridge over the Muskingum, connecting Fulsburg with Zanesville, the strengthening of which against a great flood in that river he was superintending at the time the accident occurred. His death was a severe shock not only to his immediate family and children, but to the whole community, where his name was regarded with noble veneration. "He was," wrote Solomon Stanger "an extraordinary man; his judgment was almost infallible, and I attribute much of our worldly success at his falling hand, but more to the firmness with which and diligence with which he pursued every of criminal intention, with his eye to the success of transactions rather than to the means."

After the death of Mr. Buckingham the old firm was dissolved, but the business was continued by the surviving partners under the style of "J. & Buckingham & Company." The following year Milton Buckingham, another brother of the deceased, was induced to leave his farm at Carthage, Ohio, and to join the firm. Hese-kiah Stanger, whom Solomon had persuaded to remove from Fairfield to Ohio after the death of their father in 1820, also became one of the partners, each of whom had an equal share. In 1835 Milton Buckingham retired and his place in the firm was taken by Alvah's son, Geo. Allen Hale Buckingham.

By this time various business enterprises throughout the western

III

HIS LATER LIFE

The nine years following Mr. Sturges' marriage were years of steadily increasing prosperity. Then, in August, 1832, their even flow was rudely disturbed by the sudden death of his brother-in-law and partner, Ebenezer Buckingham, who lost his life by the falling of one of the spans of the very important bridge over the Muskingum, connecting Putnam with Zanesville, the strengthening of which against a great flood in that river he was superintending at the time the accident occurred. His death was a severe shock not only to his immediate family and relatives, but to the whole community, where the event was regarded as a public calamity. "He was," wrote Solomon Sturges, "an extraordinary man; his judgment was almost intuitive, and I attribute much of my worldly success to his helping hand, but more to the impress upon my mind and character made by eighteen years of constant intercourse with him in the thousands of transactions we were interested in together."

After the death of Mr. Buckingham the old firm was dissolved, but the business was continued by the surviving partners under the style of "A Buckingham & Company." The following year Milton Buckingham, another brother of the deceased, was induced to leave his farm at Carthage, Ohio, and to join the firm. Hezekiah Sturges, whom Solomon had persuaded to remove from Fairfield to Ohio after the death of their father in 1829, also became one of the partners, each of whom had an equal share. In 1843 Milton Buckingham retired and his place in the firm was taken by Alvah's son, Benjamin Hale Buckingham.

By this time various business enterprises throughout the western

country, which extended presently to large investments in lands in Indiana and Illinois, and in the case of Mr. Sturges at least, in Missouri and Wisconsin, were becoming more and more exacting in their demands upon the attention of the senior partners. Their children, too, were growing up, and in 1845 the firm of "A. Buckingham & Company" was dissolved, and the mercantile business in Putnam was turned over to "Buckingham & Sturges," a firm composed of Benjamin Hale Buckingham and William Sturges, the eldest sons of Alvah Buckingham and Solomon Sturges.

Under the strain of the ever-widening scope of his activities, Mr. Sturges' health began gradually to decline. Prudence would have suggested the curtailment of his enterprises, but his ardent spirit never well brooked the relinquishment of any of his designs. In his case, indeed, circumstances were sometimes almost compelling to a widening field of operations. The story of one instance of the kind, in which, assuming large responsibilities, he embarked on wholly new waters, may best be told in his own words.

"My brothers [Eben and Edward, at Mansfield, Ohio] and myself in the course of our operations had become considerable holders of the bonds of the State of Indiana, and about the years 1846-48 we had accepted terms of compromise offered by the State, and accepted new bonds and 3 per cent stock for one-half of the old principal, and the other half in the preferred stock of the Wabash and Erie Canal, which was to connect the city of Toledo, upon Lake Erie, with the city of Evansville on the Ohio river. In 1850 it became apparent that the Trustees who had the canal in charge would not be able to finish it to conform to the terms of the compromise, for want of funds. Under the circumstances, and fearing a large loss if the canal should not be finished in time, I entered into a contract with said Trustees (associating Samuel Farrer and S. A. Hosmer with me in the enterprise), to finish the balance of the work on or before 1 Nov., 1853. This was for me a big job. It was expected to amount [in expenditures] to nearly \$700,000 and the total sum was finally near that amount. I was to furnish the funds, or procure them, Mr. Farrer was to act as

Engineer, he having been at the head of the Canal Engineer Corps of Ohio for many years, and Mr. Hosmer was to be upon the line of the work, superintending and pressing it forward. We went along well enough while the money market was easy, but after spending all I could raise from my own resources, all I could borrow from my brothers, or other friends, I was often straightened to get funds for our heavy monthly payments, which had all to be made in *cash*, while by our contract with the Trustees *we* were to receive their bonds payable at various periods from 1854 to 1860. I have never found the value of a good credit so important to me as during the progress of that work. Indeed, at one time, when our payments were about \$30,000 per month, I was on the point of going to England to raise money, had letters of introduction from friends in New York to their correspondents in London all prepared, when unexpectedly my friend Caleb O. Halsted¹ procured me from his friend, Mr. Kennedy, a retired merchant, a loan of \$50,000 with assurance of other sums if they should be wanted, and this, with other sums from other quarters, carried our canal contract safely through, with a fair amount of profit and considerable credit. The net profit of the operation after every expense, interest, etc., was paid, was nearly \$80,000. This was equally shared by the three partners."

In 1846, four years before this canal contract was undertaken, Alvah Buckingham formed a partnership with his friend Rufus Putnam Burlingame, Mr. Buckingham furnishing the capital, and Mr. Burlingame was sent to Chicago to open a lumber yard in that already promising field. The business of forwarding and grain and produce commission was also taken up, and in 1851 they built the Fulton Elevator, the first grain elevator erected in Chicago. Its capacity was about 75,000 bushels, and at that time it was regarded as a wonder. The success of this venture attracting the attention of Mr. Sturges, in June, 1855 he purchased a third interest in the business which had for two years been conducted by the firm of Buckingham and Burlingame, and agreed to furnish capital for a larger enterprise in the same line which he projected.

¹ President of the Manhattan Company of New York.

He had in the summer of the previous year made some stay in Illinois, then visited together by his brothers Eben, Edward and himself, that the three in person might, on the ground, direct the beginnings of a large farm to be located on three sections of land owned by them and situated near to what is now Gilman, Illinois. The Chicago branch of the Illinois Central Railroad had then, in its construction from Chicago, reached about that point only, but was being daily pushed further southward. The whole northward region traversed by that new line was, unless it here and there touched some old and thinly populated village "in the timber," a solitude of unbroken prairie whose citizenship was that alone of deer, wolves, rattlesnakes, and like denizens. An eyewitness, who accompanied the three brothers on that trip, states that the now flourishing and populous city of Kankakee, was then visible from the car windows only as a few pine structures, which here and there showed themselves in unpainted yellowness, in the scrub forest that bordered the Kankakee river. It seems plain that on that trip the keen foresight and rapid intuitions of Solomon Sturges justly grasped the future of that region and well beheld its virgin areas as shortly, and greatly, to pour their transmuted richness, in a wealth of grain, into the lap of Chicago, thence to be distributed to a waiting and hungry world. While in Chicago on that trip—and it is supposed, on his return from his stay in the interior, he had proposed to the Illinois Central Railroad to build and operate at Chicago, an elevator for the handling of the grain to reach that city on its new line. Such negotiations as followed were doubtless not handicapped by the fact that his cousin, Jonathan Sturges of New York city (between whom and his western cousins very kindly relations had existed from boyhood and who well knew their worth), was importantly connected with the financial management and policies of the railroad. The acceptance of that proposition and the execution of a contract to do all the grain warehousing at Chicago for the railroad for a term of ten years, was followed by the erection by the firm of Sturges, Buckingham & Co., of what were known as Central Elevators "A" and "B," located upon the docks of the railroad at its terminus near the mouth of the



THE RESIDENCE OF SOLOMON STURGES

At the northeast corner of Pine and Huron streets, Chicago. This building
was burned in the great Chicago fire of 1871



Chicago river. Elevator "A" was finished in the autumn of 1855, and "B" some time during the following summer.

The operation of these warehouses was most profitable, but Mr. Sturges found that the prudent conduct of the business required his constant presence in Chicago. He accordingly made his plans to remove thither with his family. This proposed change was not wholly congenial to his wife, who, as might be supposed, had a deep attachment to the home in Putnam where she had lived for thirty-three happy years, and was loth to leave the large circle of relatives and friends that surrounded her there. She had mentioned that should she remove to Chicago she would wish to have there as commodious and comfortable a homestead as had been hers at Putnam, and her husband determined that in that particular she should indulge no regrets. He bought from Walter L. Newberry the south half of the block bounded by Pine, Huron, St. Clair and Superior streets, and at its southwest corner (the northeast corner of Pine and Huron streets), built what was then considered perhaps the finest dwelling in the city.¹ It was of ample size and pleasing exterior, and lacked no interior comfort that it was then possible to provide. Mrs. Sturges did not, however, live to occupy it. While it was being prepared for her reception she became ill and died at the residence of Dr. W. W. Bancroft in Granville, Ohio, July 25, 1859. Mr. Sturges, who was in New York at the time, was apprised by telegraph that her illness had taken a serious turn and he hastened to her bedside, but arrived only in time to mingle his tears with those of their children. The loss of this helpmeet, to whom he was deeply attached, was a blow from which Solomon never recovered, and he mourned for her to the end of his life. After her death, his health, already largely undermined, steadily failed, and it soon became evident that he would probably not long survive her.

Although the clouds of impending civil war were beginning to darken the horizon, and the country had not fully recovered from the effects of the panic of 1857, Mr. Sturges' affairs were in ex-

¹ It was one of two semi-detached houses, the other being intended as a residence for one of his sons.

cellent condition and his means were rapidly increasing. His grain business had expanded to large proportions, and as a sequence to it he had become the owner of quite a number of grain-carrying vessels on the Great Lakes, and the proprietor of a fleet of tugboats in the Chicago harbor, which were under the management of Captain John Prindiville. During his residence in Putnam, Mr. Sturges had been interested in the banks in Zanesville, as a stockholder, and for some years he had conducted a private bank there. When the outbreak of the rebellion seemed imminent and there was widespread distrust of the stability of the Illinois banks, whose assets consisted in many instances largely of southern paper and "stumptail" currency which had depreciated heavily in exchangeable quality and was of uncertain value, he perceived that the time was fit for the establishment in Chicago, by one of his high credit and reputation for prudence and financial sagacity, of a banking house conducted upon conservative lines and starting out free from the burdens that hampered existing institutions. Associating with him his sons, Buckingham and Albert as partners, and William as manager, the firm of Solomon Sturges & Sons was formed, in the latter part of the year 1860. The building at numbers 15 and 17 Wells street, formerly occupied by the bank of George Smith, and distant but half a block from the Chicago Board of Trade, then located on South Water street, was rented and the new bank opened its doors. Success was immediate; deposits came pouring in, and in a short time the largest banking business in the city was built up.

Mr. Sturges' active connection with this firm lasted only about two years. The name was then changed to Solomon Sturges' Sons. After the establishment in Chicago of the numerous banks organized under the National Bank Act the business gradually fell off, and in 1866 it was closed up and the partners retired.

In politics Mr. Sturges was for many years a Whig, but as the clash between the North and South became acute, and an armed conflict over the slavery question imminent, he became an ardent Republican, and was one of the most eager and enthusiastic advocates of the nomination of Lincoln for the Presidency of the

United States. The excitement due to the breaking out of the civil war put a further strain upon his then much shattered health. With flaming patriotism he subscribed largely to the Government loans, and, desiring to aid his country by every means in his power, he raised, armed, equipped, and for nearly two months subsisted at his own cost, a company of volunteers known as "The Sturges Rifles." The organization of the company was begun in April, 1861, when the news came of the attack on Fort Sumter. It was armed by Mr. Sturges with Sharpe's rifles, and was mustered into service on May 6, but was not attached to any regiment. About the middle of June it was ordered to West Virginia to serve as a bodyguard to General George B. McClellan, reporting to him at Parkersburg. It accompanied him in the West Virginia campaign of that year, participating in the battle of Rich Mountain, and then marched with him to Washington where he went to assume the command of the armies. At Washington, which was reached on July 26, 1861, the company did guard duty until March 10, 1862, when it accompanied the General upon the march to Yorktown, and, after the siege of that place, thence into the seven days' battle of the Chickahominy. During this campaign many of the members of the company were detached as foragers, scouts, etc., and a few of them were in the battle of Antietam. The company left the army at Falmouth, and on November 25, 1862, it was mustered out of service at Washington. Its officers were James Steel, captain, Nathaniel E. Sheldon, first lieutenant, and Marcus P. Foster, second lieutenant. Under them were ninety-nine men, all told, of whom two were musicians.

In the winter of 1861-62, Mr. Sturges made a trip to "the front," going down the Mississippi as far as Island Number Ten, and visiting the troops in their various encampments. On his visit to the Army of the Tennessee, to which his son Shelton was attached, he witnessed the battle of Fort Donnelson. Not long after his return to Chicago, his health finally gave way to such an extent as to compel his retirement from business. Then followed a stay of some months in New England, during which he made a tour through the White Mountains. The next year he resumed his

interrupted residence in Putnam, for so many years his happy home, where his daughter Mrs. Potwin resided, and where yet lived his brother Hezekiah, his sister Amelia, and a surviving group of old friends. Solaced by the companionship and solicitude of these, in the peace of the beautiful village, and tenderly cared for by his daughter, he at last died at her home, on October 14, 1864.

The following estimate of Mr. Sturges' character written by one who knew him well, appeared in the columns of the "Zanesville Courier" of October 21, 1864.

"Mr. Sturges was a man of great simplicity and transparency, yet a decidedly positive character. He put on no airs and with him there was no disguise; what he thought he uttered, what he felt he manifested unequivocally and strongly, yet never with the intention of wounding another's feelings. If with his nervous temperament and quick excitability he sometimes appeared harsh and overbearing, it was only because he wished to be frank and decided. He was a kind and generous neighbor, an upright and worthy citizen, honest and honorable in all his transactions with men. Close and sharp at a bargain, yet when 'swearing to his own hurt, he changed not,' but fulfilled the letter and spirit of his contracts. Those who had befriended him were never forgotten, but were remembered with the liveliest gratitude, and those who shared his confidence ever found in him a firm, steadfast and reliable friend. He could appreciate a noble character, and such had a warm place in his heart. He was a keen observer of men and things, read character with wonderful facility and though sometimes mistaken, often at a glance, judged men with surprising accuracy.

"To the institutions of religion, he gave a liberal support, and was a punctual attendant at the house of God on the Sabbath. He was likewise an attentive and appreciative hearer of the word, though as preached, it might not carry conviction to his own mind. He contributed cheerfully to the various objects of Christian benevolence, and to the colonization society particularly, in whose mission at one time he had great confidence, he gave largely. The Ladies' Seminary in Putnam, of which he was one of the three



SOLOMON AND LUCY HALE STURGES
From a Daguerreotype taken
about 1855



original founders, and for many years a trustee, attests the interest he felt in female education, and the desire he had that the daughters of the land might be thoroughly furnished for their appropriate and responsible duties.

“Mr. Sturges was a true, ardent and self-sacrificing patriot. He loved the country for which his ancestors fought and bled, and hastened to its rescue when imperiled. He hated corruption and improvidence anywhere, especially in the public servants. Always preferring right above any mere party ties, he was ready to pursue the course, which, to him, seemed best adapted to secure the highest welfare of the nation. For demagogues and political tricksters, who seek to fatten upon the public treasury, without rendering an equivalent service, he had a supreme contempt. When the present rebellion broke out he entered, with more than his wonted energy and activity, into the work of its overthrow and the destruction of its life and power. He organized a company of ‘Rifles’ bearing his own name, involving a personal expenditure of \$20,000, besides other expenditures exceeding, perhaps, those of any other individual in the country.

“When the Government in the first of that dark and gloomy period, appealed to its citizens for pecuniary aid and it required great fortitude to invest to any great extent in its securities, and when several of the loyal States proposed to indorse for the Government, to the extent of their receipts from the sales of public land, Mr. Sturges promptly subscribed for \$100,000 of the first loan offered to the public. This liberal subscription was heralded over the country as evincing his faith in the Government and had a marked effect in inducing early and rapid subscription to this patriotic loan. He also gave orders that the receipts from his grain warehouses, then yielding a large revenue, should also be appropriated in like manner. It was one of the strong desires of his heart that he might live to witness the downfall of the rebellion and the complete triumph of the Government, and its free institutions enjoyed by all the inhabitants of the land.

“The country has had few men of greater financial ability than Mr. Sturges. Eminently was he the architect of his own fortune.

His unwonted success was not the result of some rash speculation by which wealth is sometimes acquired and lost in a day. It was the legitimate fruit of fine business talents, patient and laborious toil, singular and accurate forethought and consummate skill in the management of his extensive and multiform affairs. His mind worked with wonderful rapidity not only, but had unflinching tenacity and untiring energy to the goal of his ambition—almost always too with sound judgment and commendable prudence. If in any case there was a spice of romance in his plans, the instances were few, considering his quick and excitable temperament, and may be pardoned for the lofty ideal which floated in his imagination.

“Mr. Sturges was no common man. His was no negative character, taking its elements and shape from surrounding influences. He was one of nature’s noblemen, born to rule, to give form and direction, and furnish thought and stimulus to other minds, and help society to move. He possessed a tall and commanding form, a well developed head, ‘bright, keen and detective’ eyes, a countenance, at times serene and thoughtful, and again glowing under the workings of his quick and genial spirit, as full of life and buoyancy, and as fond of humor and pleasant repartee as the most youthful and lively around him. Yet in these seasons of relaxation and social enjoyment, his large experience and deep reflection prompted the most sage and worthy counsels.

“It was a great comfort to Mr. Sturges, in his last sickness, that he could be in the bosom of his family, and as a child, be nursed by the tender assiduities of his daughters. And it was a noble sight to see him borne to his burial by his manly sons, and to those who have known and respected him so long, it is a source of deep regret that we shall ‘see his face no more.’ ”

RECOLLECTIONS OF LUCY HALE STURGES
BY KATE STURGES BENTON

RECOLLECTIONS OF LUCY HALE STURGES

BY KATE STURGES BENTON

To write all that I can remember about my mother seems a very little thing for me to do, and yet I hesitate. To give the beautiful memories in my heart I should need an inspired pen and an artist's brush, and I have neither.

I can give only a few facts about my mother's early life. Her birthplace was Glastonbury, Connecticut, a town where the shadows from old elm trees play adown the one solitary street in which stands the old-fashioned two-story frame house of my grandfather Benjamin Hale. She was next to the youngest of a family of notable sisters; "none knew them but to praise." She was christened "Lucy." I know nothing of her childhood. I have often heard my father say that in her youth she was very fair to look upon and that he was attracted by her lovely disposition which I came myself so well to know in her later years.

From an old newspaper I quote the following: "In August, 1823, Mr. Solomon Sturges was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Hale of Glastonbury, Conn., a lady eminently fitted by her happy temperament, her loving heart and her cheerful piety, to be his companion." I have often heard of their long wedding journey on horseback, over the mountains to the quiet little town of Putnam, in Muskingum County, Ohio. There my mother was welcomed by her two married sisters, who had eagerly awaited her coming. The three sisters worked in harmony side by side for many years, and did much, as pioneer women, to build up in strength and beauty, that little valley town among the Muskingum hills.

The home of my childhood was a very happy and a very beautiful

one. I was born in a new house—we had outgrown the old one, and father's worldly goods had increased with his family. The new house was the admiration of all the countryside, and very proud was I when old enough to appreciate its grandeur. The parlors were large and high and were seemingly multiplied into many rooms by large mirrors at each end. We had no gas, but lamps with many prisms made the rooms appear like fairy caves. The carpets of green velvet were so soft to my feet that in childhood I fancied they must be made of some kind of fairy moss; and the cornices that held the soft lace curtains, I then believed to be of purest gold. My mother was my real fairy queen; the house was her castle, and I was a princess. I did not give my older brothers much consideration. They came and went at their own good pleasure; but Frank was my good comrade, and I idolized my two sisters.

Can I attempt to describe my mother? She was small of stature, gentle of hand and swift of foot. She had the softest brown hair, and the loveliest eyes I ever saw, and the sweetest voice. I never knew her to be idle. Indeed, with nine children, how could she be? I never knew her to be "cross;" nine restless spirits in the home taught her patience. We were a little village of relatives at Putnam, and besides the care of her own large family, she was given to hospitality; and when the aunts and uncles came, and cousins by the dozen, we numbered a goodly multitude. I can still see the long table with the delicate china—she always cared for that herself—the good things to eat, and her bright face behind the silver coffee urn, as well as I can remember that the atmosphere of the home was always "Peace." My mother made it so; and the motto of the house was "Plenty." She provided generously for the material wants of her big family; we always had enough and to spare. I remember that sweet-smelling cellar with bin after bin of the choicest apples, and the swinging shelf laden with pies that were always there and were never allowed to grow stale, for didn't we children hold high carnival!

I cannot tell of many great things my mother did—only the thousand and one little things that most people pass over lightly or



LUCY HALE STURGES

Æt about 56. From the Portrait by Pine, in the possession
of Mrs. Benton



leave undone. She had a good common school education of the sort furnished in the old-fashioned days, but she had little time to cultivate her mind. Though without what we call accomplishments, she was no ordinary woman. She lived before the era of trained nurses, and many demands were made for her loving services in sickness. She helped care for an invalid sister¹ until she died, and then, with constant devotion, watched over her niece, the delicate little Ada, daughter of that sister, until the child's father married again. Her poorer neighbors were made to feel that when in need they always had a claim upon her time and her purse. In the early springtime, when the winter snow melted upon our hilltops, and the Muskingum river overflowed so that many had to leave their homes to seek shelter elsewhere, I remember how excited I felt and how glad, under the inspiration of her expressions of sympathy, to give from my wardrobe to aid the sufferers.

Speaking of clothes, I must relate an incident of my early childhood that may interest the other members of the family. I was about six years old and the proud possessor of a cotton velvet hood. Cousin Eb. Convers mischievously threw it into a tub of water. The color ran and I was inconsolable. Cousin Ada,² about my own age, tried in vain to comfort me. I wept bitter tears, but great was my joy when Saturday evening came and I was called in haste from my bath to behold "a love of a bonnet," a delicate corded blue silk affair, with pink rosebuds around the face, a present from Aunt Kate Convers. Can you imagine my ecstasy? I could not sleep that night while visions of my appearance at church next day danced through my head. Sunday morning dawned bright and clear, but alas! it was not fair for me. I was not allowed to wear that "love of a bonnet" until one could be made exactly like it for Ada to wear at the same time. I confess my pleasure was half spoiled when I had to share that glory with another, even with a dear little cousin; but the incident serves to show how thoughtfully kind and impartial my mother was.

¹ Jerusha—Mrs. Eben Perry Sturges.

² Daughter of Eben Perry and Jerusha (Hale) Sturges. She is now Mrs. A. A. Hosmer.

I remember that when I was a little girl she hid in the dark depths of our big cellar several negro families, fugitive slaves from Kentucky. She secreted and clothed, and fed them by day, and helped them forward by night on their journey to the Canadian border. How my heart thrilled with excitement, and how proud I was of my mother's courage. Feeling the inadequacy, by later standards, of her own education, she was most anxious that her children should have every advantage. She tried private tutors at Duncan's Falls, and the village schoolmaster, Mr. Chandler, came in the evenings to teach us to write. A dozen children gathered around the big "keeping room" table, with old-fashioned copy books and quill pens, and a dish of rosy apples in the centre to make drudgery a joy. Mother was particularly desirous that her sons should have collegiate educations, and I can recall her disappointment when they chose to walk another way. By father's liberality, William and Shelton were able to marry early, while I was still a child, and I can remember mother's impartiality in dealing with her daughters and daughters-in-law, dividing among them equally the gold she received from her Bridge Company dividends. With her sisters, Mrs. Ebenezer Buckingham and Mrs. Alvah Buckingham, she helped to endow Putnam Female Seminary, the pride of our town, and the dearly beloved "Alma Mater" whose shades I left in July, 1858, quite certain I had learned there everything worth knowing.

How well I remember the old church on the hillside.

In memory I enter the old oaken door
And the form of my mother beside me will glide
To her seat in the pew so familiar of yore;
And the minister, stately, will walk on before,
Ascend to the pulpit, and give out the text.
I tremble, in dread of the words that come next—
For the words of those sermons, we children could tell,
Were e'er about sin, and damnation and hell!
The orthodox preacher, the puritan preacher,
The iron-bound preacher, remembered so well.



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT PUTNAM, OHIO

From an Engraving made from a photograph taken before changes were made in the building which materially alter its appearance



Mother's voice in the hymns, how well I remember,
 And the light in her eyes—how bright they would shine—
 And when I was restless, how loving and tender
 The touch of her soft gentle hand upon mine.
 O, my angelic mother,
 There can be no other
 All the world over compared to mine.

Mother was one of the sixteen original members of the church,
 and she lived her religion. She built the Sunday School hall ad-
 joining the church, so that the little children should have a pleas-
 anter place to meet in than the cold, dark basement of the church.
 A few days before her death I heard her say this little prayer:
 "O God, sanctify this affliction to my own and my children's
 good." She did not know that I was near, but I felt that the angel
 of death was. Then she sang, clearly and triumphantly:

"My lifted eye without a tear
 The gathering storm shall see,
 My steadfast heart shall know no fear,
 That heart is stayed on Thee."

She passed away from us at Granville, Ohio, July 25, 1859.
 We were staying there at the time with an experienced physician
 and dear friend, Dr. Bancroft, hoping his skill might avail to keep
 her with us. But,

"So pure her heart was in each feeling;
 So fair her face in its revealing,
 Surely the angels thought that she
 Was one of their bright company,
 And on some homeward errand driven
 Hurried her, too, away to Heaven."

I cannot think of her without recalling the lines:

“Earth hath one loving spirit less,
And Heaven one angel more,
Then write above the name we bless,
Not dead but gone before.”

We laid her to rest in beautiful Woodlawn Cemetery. In the old church, January 7, 1877, sixteen years later, Dr. Kingsbury, in his memorial service, paid this tribute to her: “Mrs. Sturges was of a most retiring disposition, unpretending, discreet and lovely; a sincere and faithful disciple, adoring the doctrine of God, her Saviour, in all things; a most devoted wife and mother, active in duty and heroic in suffering; a steadfast friend and peacemaker, a generous patron of the Sabbath School and the benefactress of her Pastor.”

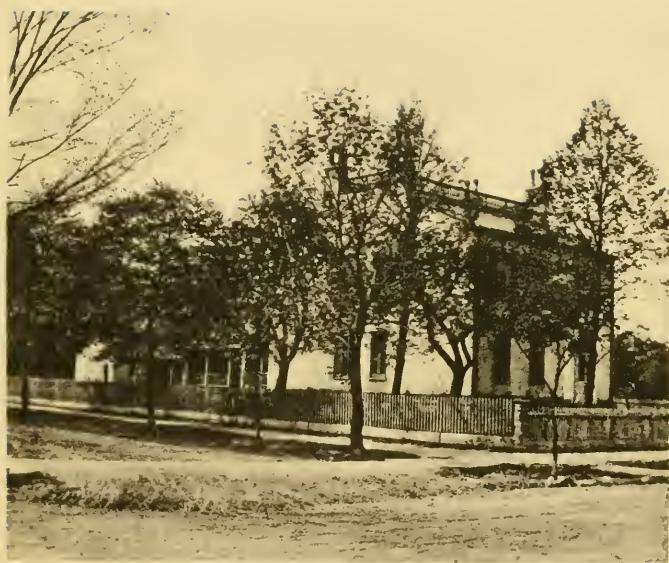
I cannot finish this imperfect sketch of mother's life without speaking of the important part she played in the life of my father. Always patient and loving, she was a wall of protection about him. He idolized her, and knew little happiness after she left us. He survived her five years, but they were years of labor and sorrow; and one beautiful October day, his six sons laid him to sleep by mother's side. A shaft of Aberdeen granite, erected by his nine children in memory of their father and mother, marks their resting place in Woodlawn cemetery.

May I chronicle here, a memorable Thanksgiving day? The family gathering was held on the 24th of November, 1870, in the hall built by brother Ebenezer Buckingham for our entertainment.¹ All the living descendants were present to honor the memory of our beloved dead. Father's and mother's portraits were wreathed with smilax and were united with nine links of evergreen. Over father's portrait were the words in arbor vitæ, “A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children;” and over mother's, “Her children shall arise and call her blessed.” Brother Eb. and his beautiful wife, my sister Lucy, were our gracious entertainers, and we had toasts and speeches, music and laughter, feasting and

¹ The hall was in Mr. Buckingham's home at the northwest corner of Huron and St. Clair streets, which was destroyed in the great fire of October, 1871.



THE RESIDENCE OF SOLOMON STURGES
At Putnam, Ohio



dancing. I remember how glad I felt when I danced the old Virginia reel with my six brothers. We little dreamed how soon a holocaust of fire would turn that beautiful home to ashes.

Our next family reunion was held in this home of mine, 5021 Washington Avenue, Chicago, on April 14, 1896, the 100th anniversary of father's birth. I believe there were thirty-five children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren present. At the noon hour we had an old-fashioned dinner of the good things we loved in our childhood, and father's grandson and namesake, Solomon Sturges, asked the blessing. We celebrated another anniversary on May 22, 1900, the 100th anniversary of the birthday of our mother, and all the descendants who could come, assembled to honor the "virtuous woman whose price is far above rubies,"—the mother, whose children "arise and call her blessed"—the saint in whose footsteps we all would follow.

The home of my childhood still stands on Woodlawn Avenue, once Putnam, now Zanesville.

Dear Home! How sad and desolate!
None answer to my call;
Strange shadows wait about the gate,
Strange voices fill the hall.
Four brothers rest in quiet peace
By Lake Geneva's shore;
Think'st thou my love for them can cease?
Shall I see them no more?
Two sisters sleep 'neath Woodlawn's shade,
They sleep and give no sign,
Yet shall my fond heart be afraid
That they're no longer mine?
Their graves are green, they may be seen
While brother Frank, and I,
Still walking here, are keeping dear
Their blessed memory.
As once the village maid so small
Persisted "We are seven,"

So mother and father, I recall
Sisters and brothers, one and all
And say, "We are eleven."
Still the forms of the departed
Enter at the open door,
The beloved, the true-hearted
Come to visit us once more;
And with them the being beauteous
Who unto my youth was given,
More than all things else to love me,
And is now a saint in Heaven.
With a slow and noiseless footstep
Comes that messenger divine,
Takes the vacant chair beside me,
Lays her gentle hand in mine,
And she sits and gazes at me,
With those deep and tender eyes,
Like the stars so still and saint-like,
Looking downward from the skies.
Uttered not, yet comprehended,
Is the spirit's voiceless prayer—
Soft rebukes, in blessings ended,
Breathing from those lips of air.
Oh! though oft depressed and lonely,
All our fears are laid aside,
When we but remember only
Such as these have lived and died.
"For Love will dream and Faith will trust,
Since He who knows our need is just,
That somehow, somewhere, meet we must.
Alas for him who never sees
The stars shine through his cypress trees,
Who hath not learned in hours of faith
The truth, to flesh and sense unknown,
That Life is ever Lord of death
And Love can never lose its own."

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GENEALOGICAL TABLE

OF THE ANCESTORS OF MRS. LUCY HALE STURGES

COMPILED BY JAMES BUCKINGHAM
of Zanesville, Ohio

Double the number before any name and you have that of the father; add one to the doubled number and you have that of the mother.

1 Benjamin Hale
b. Oct. 30, 1750
d. Dec. 24, 1831
m. Dec. 23, 1783

Philo Hale
b. Mar. 16, 1785; d. Oct.
29, 1847; m. Caroline M.
Butler

Hannah Hale
b. Nov. 14, 1786; d. Mar.
5, 1827; m. Rev. Prince
Hawes

Timothy Hale
b. Oct. 14, 1788; d. July
19, 1819; m. Ann Hale

Benjamin Hale
b. Sept. 16, 1790; d. Sept.
1859; m. Lavina Talcott

Eunice Hale
b. Oct. 22, 1792; d. Feb.
28, 1843; m. Ebenezer
Buckingham

Anna Hale
b. Mar. 9, 1795; d. Sept.
23, 1867; m. Alva Buck-
ingham

Jerusha Merrick Hale
b. Sept. 19, 1797; d. Apr.
25, 1847; m. Eben Perry
Sturges

Lucy Hale
b. Mar. 22, 1800; d. July
25, 1859; m. Solomon
Sturges.

4 Capt. Timothy Hale
b. Aug. 3, 1727
d. June 25, 1801
1st Reg. Conn.
Militia in Rev.
War

5 Hannah Hale
b. May 9, 1732
d. Feb. 28, 1786

6 William Welles
b. Mar. 3, 1724
d. Apr. 12, 1778

8 Martha Welles
b. Aug. 12, 1759
d. Apr. 2, 1837

7 Ann Shelton
b. —, 1728
d. May 26, 1762

8 Timothy Hale
b. —, 1692
d. Aug. 9, 1784

9 Sarah Frary
b. —, 1700
d. Sept. 7, 1770

10 Benjamin Hale
b. July 22, 1707
d. —, 1796

m. Jan. 30, 1729

11 Hannah Talcott
b. Oct. 16, 1706
d. Feb. 6, 1796

m. Dec. 28, 1715

13 Martha Pitkin
b. Feb. 28, 1692
d. May 14, 1767

m. May 9, 1750

14 Joseph Shelton
b. June 24, 1696

m. May 11, 1726

15 Mary Hollister
b. Aug. 25, 1704

16 Thomas Hale
b. —, 1653
d. Dec. 23, 1723
m. Oct. 30, 1679

17 Naomi Kilbourne
b. —, 1656
d. May 17, 1735

18 Samuel Frary
b. Apr. 15, 1676
m. —, 1734

19 Sarah Boardman
b. —, 1673
d. —, 1734

20 Lieut. Samuel Hale
b. —, 1645
d. Nov. 18, 1711

m. —, 1695

Second wife
Mary Welles
b. Nov. 23, 1666
d. Feb. 18, 1715

22 Benjamin Talcott
b. Mar. 1, 1674
d. Nov. 12, 1727

m. Jan. 15, 1695

23 Sarah Hollister
b. Oct. 25, 1676
d. Oct. 15, 1715

24 Capt. Samuel Welles
b. Apr. 13, 1660
d. Aug. 28, 1734
m. June 20, 1683

25 Ruth Rice
b. Sept. 24, 1658
d. Mar. 31, 1742

26 William Pitkin
b. —, 1664
d. Apr. 5, 1723

m. —, 1686

27 Elizabeth Stanley
b. Oct. 24, 1669

28 Daniel Shelton
Merchant of
London
d. —, 1728

m. Apr. 4, 1692

29 Elizabeth Welles
b. —, 1670

30 John Hollister
b. Aug. —, 1667
d. July 9, 1746

m. Nov. 22, 1694

31 Ann —

32 Samuel Hale, b. 1615; d.
1693; m. 1640

33 Mary Wells

34 John Kilbourne, b. Sept. 29,
1624; d. Apr. 9, 1703; m.
1650

35 Naomi —; d. Oct. 1, 1659

36 Elizur Frary

37 — Graves

38 Samuel Boardman

39 —

40 Samuel Hale (see no. 32)

41 Mary Wells

42 Capt. Samuel Welles, b. 1630;
d. July 15, 1775; m. 1659

43 Elizabeth Hollister, d. 1683

44 Samuel Talcott, b. 1635; d.
1691; m. Nov. 7, 1661

45 Hannah Holyoke, b. June 9,
1644; d. Feb. 2, 1678

46 John Hollister, b. 1642; d.
Nov. 24, 1711; m. Nov. 11,
1667

47 Sarah Goodrich, b. 1649;
d. 1709

48 Capt. Samuel Welles,
See No. 42

49 Elizabeth Hollister

50 Edward Rice, d. May 3,
1663; m. Mar. 1, 1655

51 Mary Hunt, widow of
Thomas Bingham

52 Hon. William Pitkin, b.
1636; d. Dec. 15, 1694;
m. 1661

53 Hannah Goodwin

54 Caleb Stanley, b. 1642; d.
May 15, 1710; m. 1665

55 Hannah Cowles, d. 1690

56 Gov. Thomas Welles

57 Elizabeth Hunt

58 John Hollister. See No. 86

59 Elizabeth Hollister

60 John Hollister. See No. 46

61 Sarah Goodrich

68 Thomas Kilbourne, b. 1580;
d. 1648

69 Frances —, d. 1685

72 Isaac Graves

73 —

84 Gov. Thomas Welles. Came
from Eng. to Salem, Mass.
June 14, 1629; b. 1570;
d. Jan. 14, 1660

85 Elizabeth Hunt, wid. John
Dunning

86 John Hollister, one of the
first settlers in Wethers-
field, Conn.; b. 1612;
d. Apr. 1665

87 Joanna Treat, d. 1694

88 John Talcott, b. 1600; d.
1660

89 Dorothy Smith, d. Feb. 1670

90 Elizur Holyoke, d. Feb. 6,
1676

91 Mary Pynchon, m. Nov. 20,
1640; d. Oct. 26, 1657

92 John Hollister. See No. 86

93 Joanna Treat

94 William Goodrich, m. Oct.
8, 1648; d. 1676

95 Sarah Marvin, b. 1632; d.
1702

96 Gov. Thomas Welles

97 Elizabeth Hunt

98 John Hollister. See No. 86

99 Joanna Treat

104 Roger Pitkin, of Norwich,
Eng.

106 Osias Goodwin, b. 1596; d.
Apr., 1683

107 Timothy Stanley

108 John Cowles, d. Sept., 1677

111 —

116 Gov. Thomas Welles

117 Elizabeth Hunt

118 John Hollister. See No. 86

119 Joanna Treat

120 John Hollister. See No. 86

121 Joanna Treat

174 Richard Treat, d. 1669

175 Joanna —

176 John Talcott

177 Annie Skinner

178 Benjamin Smith

179 —

180 Edward Holyoke, came from
Tammoth, Staffordshire,
Eng., 1616; m. June 18,
1612; d. May 4, 1660

181 Prudence Stockton

182 Hon. William Pynchon
b. Oct., 1662

183 — Orchard

188 William Goodrich

189 — Stillman

190 Matthew Marvin, b. 1600;
d. 1680

191 Elizabeth —, b. 1604

198 Richard Treat

199 Joanna —

212 George Goodwin

213 Ellen Smith

218 Richard Treat

219 Joanna —

242 Richard Treat

243 Joanna —

244 William Goodrich

245 — Stillman

246 Matthew Marvin

247 Elizabeth —

352 John Talcott of
Colchester

354 William Skinner

728 John Pynchon

729 Jane Empson

DESCENDANTS OF
SOLOMON STURGES

DESCENDANTS OF SOLOMON STURGES

FIRST GENERATION

1. SOLOMON¹ STURGES of Putnam (now a part of Zanesville), Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois, fourth son of Dimon and Sarah (Perry) Sturges of Fairfield, Connecticut, was born in Fairfield, April 21, 1796, and died in Zanesville, Ohio, October 14, 1864. He married in Glastonbury, Connecticut, August 14, 1823, Lucy Hale, fifth and youngest daughter of Benjamin and Martha (Welles) Hale of that town. She was born in Glastonbury, May 22, 1800, and died in Granville, Ohio, July 25, 1859. Their children were:

- 2+ i WILLIAM STURGES, b. May 27, 1824
- 3+ ii SARAH STURGES, b. Sept. 23, 1826
- 4+ iii SHELTON STURGES, b. Aug. 7, 1828
- 5+ iv LUCY STURGES, b. Aug. 15, 1831
- 6+ v BUCKINGHAM STURGES, b. June 4, 1833
- 7+ vi ALBERT STURGES, b. Nov. 5, 1835
- 8+ vii GEORGE STURGES, b. May 13, 1838
- 9+ viii KATE STURGES, b. July 9, 1840
- 10+ ix FRANK STURGES, b. Oct. 10, 1842

SECOND GENERATION

2. WILLIAM² STURGES, eldest son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, May 27, 1824, and died in Owego, New York, November 12, 1894. When he arrived at the age of twenty-one, his father established him in

business on his own account, relinquishing in his favor, his interest in the store in Putnam, owned by him and Alvah Buckingham. At the same time Mr. Buckingham gave his interest to his eldest son, Benjamin Hale Buckingham, and thus the firm of Buckingham & Sturges was formed in the spring of 1845. Not long after another cousin, John Buckingham, son of Ebenezer and Eunice (Hale) Buckingham, was admitted to the partnership. William, who was ambitious and restless, soon became desirous of a wider field. In the course of a year or two he withdrew and removed to New York city, where, with John L. Adams, he established the house of Adams & Sturges, forwarding and commission merchants. He continued in this firm until 1853, when, an opportunity presenting itself to form a business connection with Rowland Ellis of Cincinnati, he sold his interest to his cousin, John Buckingham, who, in 1848, had also removed to New York. Ellis had the reputation of being a shrewd and successful financier. The banking houses of Ellis & Sturges at Cincinnati, and Sturges & Ellis at New York started under favorable auspices and for some years conducted business with great success, but in the panic of August, 1857, they were carried down and forced to suspend. Confident that their assets were more than ample to meet their liabilities, William began settling claims in full, but the shrinkage in values that followed the financial storm soon put an end to this, and it became apparent that they were hopelessly insolvent.

From the effects of this disaster William never fully recovered. He returned to his father's house in Putnam, and, after an interval of inactivity, became a clerk in the bank of Solomon Sturges & Co., in Zanesville. There he continued until early in 1859, when he removed to Chicago and took a position with the firm of Sturges, Buckingham & Co. When, in the latter part of 1860, his father established the banking house of Solomon Sturges & Sons, William, though prevented by his outstanding liabilities from becoming one of the partners, and nominally relegated to the status of a clerk, took a leading part in the management, which, as his father's health failed, was largely left to his direction. After his father's retirement he occupied a similar position with the bank of Solomon

Sturges' Sons until 1866, when its affairs were closed and its deposit accounts turned over to the Northwestern National Bank.

During the remainder of his life William was engaged in varied activities. From 1867 to 1870 he was employed by his brothers, Buckingham and Albert, to assist them in their enterprise of building the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Galveston Railroad. For two years William was the President of the company, and afterward its Vice President. During this period his Chicago office was at the Burlington Warehouse, State and Sixteenth streets. One of his most important employments in later life was the raising of capital for the Capitol Freehold Land and Development Company, Limited—a corporation formed to take over from John V. Farwell of Chicago and his associates, an enormous body of land in Texas, acquired by them from that state in payment for building the State House at Austin. While upon this service William lived for several years in London.

William Sturges was a man of broad sympathies and generous impulses. In 1853, when he was at the height of his prosperity, he gave \$10,000 to the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, Ohio, for the purchase of books as a beginning of a college library, upon the condition that the trustees should raise the sum of \$15,000 for the erection of a library building. This condition was complied with and the building, now used as a chemical laboratory and class room, bears the name of Sturges Hall.

Mr. Sturges married, 1st, in Zanesville, Ohio, March 23, 1847, Caroline Amelia Potwin, daughter of John Stoughton and Sophia (Marsh) Potwin, of Burlington, Vermont. She was born in New Jersey, November 5, 1827; died in Chicago, November 14, 1874; and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Zanesville. By her Mr. Sturges had no children. He married, 2d, in New York city, October 8, 1876, Bessie McLeod, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, January 24, 1857, daughter of John D. and Mary (Lannon) McLeod, and by her had issue:

11+ i ALBERTA STURGES, b. Sept. 17, 1877

12+ ii HOLLISTER STURGES, b. June 14, 1879

Mrs. Bessie McLeod Sturges was married, 2d, on September 9, 1895, to Francis H. Leggett of New York city, by whom she has one child: Francis Howard Leggett, born in New York, November 30, 1896.

3. SARAH ² STURGES, eldest daughter of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, September 23, 1826, and died in Zanesville, April 20, 1892. She lived all her life in Putnam, where she was married on August 8, 1848, by the Rev. Addison Kingsbury, to Charles Wolcott Potwin, a merchant and banker of Zanesville, son of John Stoughton and Sophia (Marsh) Potwin of Burlington, Vermont, and brother of Caroline Potwin, the first wife of Sarah's brother, William Sturges. Mr. Potwin was born in New York city, December 12, 1819, and died in Zanesville, July 9, 1889.

Children:

13+ i LUCY STURGES POTWIN, b. Nov. 16, 1849

14+ ii JULIA MARSH POTWIN, b. Sept. 26, 1851

15+ iii CARA POTWIN, b. Nov. 18, 1855

16+ iv CHARLES ALBERT POTWIN, b. June 10, 1858

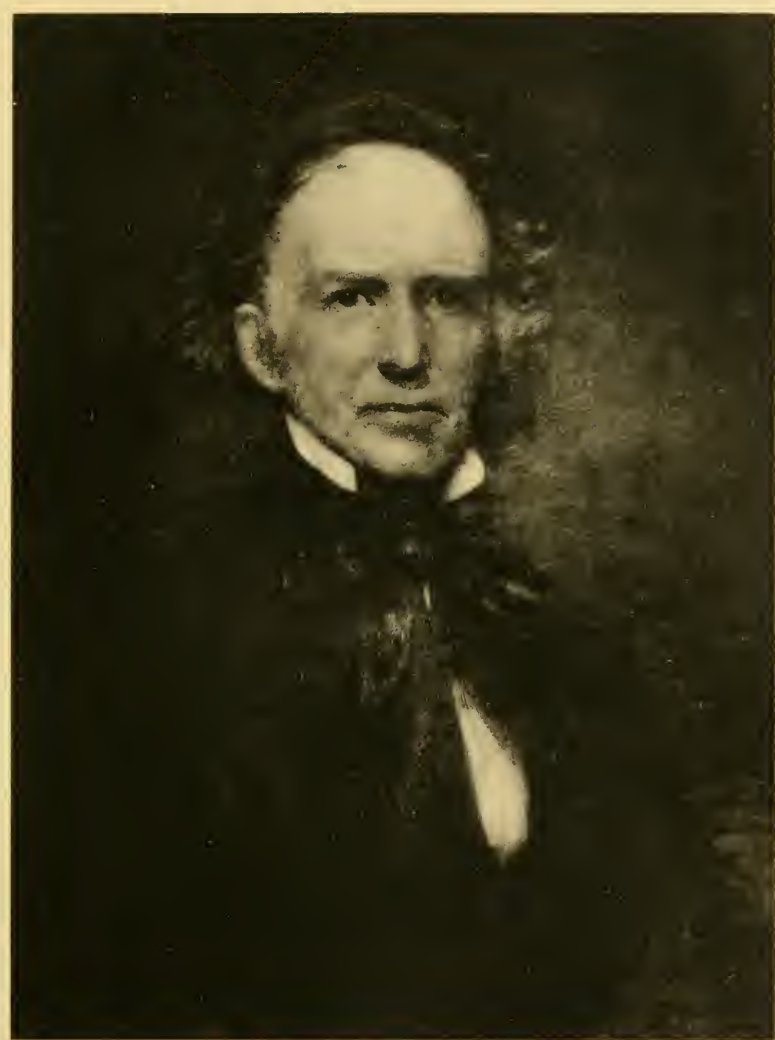
17+ v KATE BENTON POTWIN, b. Jan. 12, 1862

4. SHELTON ² STURGES, second son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, August 7, 1828, and died in Chicago, June 21, 1888. From 1850 until 1861 he lived on the farm at Duncan's Falls on the Muskingum river, nine miles below Zanesville, which his father gave him at the time of his marriage. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, Shelton enlisted in the 24th Ohio volunteers, was chosen Captain of Company B; was later promoted to be Major of the regiment; and, after a little more than a year of active service, he was honorably discharged in November, 1862. Returning to his farm, after having spent a short time in Chicago, he remained there until late in 1863 or early in the following year when he removed to Chicago, and for about a year and a half was one of the partners in the bank of Solomon Sturges' Sons. In 1865 he withdrew from that firm,



SOLOMON STURGES

Æt. about 60. From the Portrait by Healy, in the possession
of Mrs. Benton



his brothers George and Frank also leaving it at the same time. Shelton then co-operated with George in founding the Northwestern National Bank of Chicago, but took no active part in its management. In the same year he became a member of the firm of Lewis, Ham & Co., dealers in paints, oils, and glass. A few months later the firm of Sturges, McAllister & Co., warehousemen and wool commission merchants, was formed. The partners were Shelton Sturges and Jesse McAllister. At first they were located at numbers 2, 4, and 6 Rush street, but in 1869 they removed to 80 and 82 Wabash avenue. Shortly before the great fire of 1871 the firm sold out its business; that of Lewis, Ham & Co. was closed some time in 1867 or 1868, a part of its activity being continued for awhile by Shelton's nephew, James Dwight Sturges, under the style of the "Chicago Oil Works."

After this Shelton did not again engage in mercantile business. The opportunities afforded by the far west, then made for the first time readily accessible through the completion of the Union and Central Pacific railways, attracted him and he purchased a fine ranch property in California, near Santa Barbara. This he held for some years, but finally lost it through a defect in the title. At the time of his death he was engaged in the enterprise of establishing in Mexico, near the Arizona line (since found, upon a resurvey of the boundary, to be in the United States), under a concession from the Mexican government, the Ortiz Ranch—a large stock raising plant, which he had already to a considerable extent equipped.

The last twenty years of Shelton's life were for the most part spent at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, where he was the pioneer of the Chicago colony that has since grown to such considerable proportions. Impressed by the natural beauty of the place, he bought a large and finely situated body of land there, sweeping up from the shore of the lake, built upon it a handsome residence, and removed thither with his family. This was prior to the great Chicago fire of 1871. Later he diminished the original area of his purchase at Lake Geneva, by selling from it the very considerable portions upon which his brother George Sturges, and the late

Levi Z. Leiter built their summer homes. His own house, after his death, was sold to Henry H. Porter.

Mr. Sturges married in Marietta, Ohio, May 13, 1850, Frances Rowena Nye, daughter of Arius and Rowena (Spencer) Nye of Marietta. She was born November 27, 1826, and died in Chicago, April 30, 1890. Mr. and Mrs. Sturges are buried in the cemetery at Lake Geneva. They had six children, all born in Duncan's Falls, Ohio:

- 18+ i ROWENA SPENCER STURGES, b. Oct. 26, 1852
- 19+ ii HELEN STURGES, b. July 30, 1854
- 20+ iii WILLIAM SPENCER STURGES, b. Mar. 3, 1856
- 21+ iv HAROLD STURGES, b. Feb. 24, 1858
- 22 v SHELTON STURGES, b. Jan. 22, 1860
- 23 vi VIRGINIA STURGES, b. April 1; d. July 30, 1863

5. LUCY² STURGES, second daughter of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, August 15, 1831, and was educated at the seminary in that town. At the age of twenty, she accompanied her cousin (who was two years her senior), Mrs. Julia Buckingham Cox,¹ and her husband, the late Hon. Samuel Sullivan Cox,² on the memorable tour of the three to the Old World, chronicled by him, with frequent allusions to the youngest of the party, in his well-known and amusing work "A Buckeye Abroad." It was from a passage in that book, extensively read at the time it was issued, that Mr. Cox derived his national soubriquet of "Sunset" Cox. From that journey the youthful Lucy returned laden with a wealth of recollections and other treasures. She was married in Putnam, May 5, 1853, by the Rev. Addison Kingsbury, to Ebenezer Buckingham, son of Ebenezer and Eunice (Hale) Buckingham of Putnam. Mr. Buckingham was born in Putnam, January 16, 1829. At the time of his marriage he was a banker and commission merchant in Zanesville. Shortly after-

¹ Daughter of Alvah and Anna (Hale) Buckingham.

² Mr. Cox, then of Zanesville, but later of Columbus, was in 1854, at the age of thirty, appointed by President Pierce as Secretary of Legation to Great Britain. In 1885 and 1886 he was President Cleveland's Minister to Turkey. He was for eight years Congressman from Ohio, and for eighteen years from New York city.

ward he removed to New York for a short time, then back to Zanesville, and in November, 1859, to Chicago, which has since been his home. Mrs. Buckingham died in Chicago, July 6, 1889, and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Zanesville.

Children:

24 i CLARENCE BUCKINGHAM, b. in Zanesville, Nov. 2, 1854

25 ii KATE STURGES BUCKINGHAM, b. in Zanesville, Aug. 3, 1858

26 iii LUCY MAUD BUCKINGHAM, b. in Chicago, Sept. 9, 1870

6. BUCKINGHAM² STURGES, third son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, June 4, 1833, and died in Chicago, April 9, 1889. He began his business career in the bank of Solomon Sturges & Co. at Zanesville, of which he was for several years the cashier. In 1860 he removed to Chicago and, after a few months during which he was a clerk for Sturges, Buckingham & Co., he became one of the partners in the banking house of Solomon Sturges & Sons, established that year. In this firm and that of Solomon Sturges' Sons, which succeeded it, he remained until the business was closed up in 1866. When the Northwestern National Bank of Chicago was organized in 1864, he became its president, but held the office for a few months only, other interests requiring his undivided attention. At or about this time, in connection with his brother Albert, he had opened a banking house under the firm name of Sturges & Co. at the then newly established Union Stock Yards, which had been formed to do away with the great inconvenience to the general market arising from the widely separated yards in which the railroads entering Chicago had theretofore received and cared for consignments of live stock, each railroad having its own yard. The importance of banking facilities to the large trade which in constantly increasing volume developed at this new centre, was early recognized by the two brothers. The "Union Stock Yards Bank," as they called it, of Sturges & Co., was conducted by them for some time, very successfully, but in 1867 they sold it to Samuel M. Nickerson and his associates, who, on March 8, 1868, incor-

porated it under the National Bank Act, as the Union Stock Yards National Bank.

As long as Buckingham lived, his association with his brother Albert was extremely close. Together, in the later "sixties," they owned and conducted the large warehouse in Chicago, located at the northwest corner of State and Sixteenth streets, and occupying the whole of that part of the block lying south of the tracks of the Illinois Central Railroad. This was then known as the Burlington Warehouse. In its upper story there was a large public hall, called "Burlington Hall."

Buckingham and Albert were also at this period associated together in building the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad, which was afterward sold to the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fé Railroad Company and now forms a part of its system.

Buckingham Sturges was, until his death, the managing trustee in the trust to which his father, Solomon Sturges, in the year preceding his decease, had by a deed committed nearly the whole of his estate. Embraced in that estate were very large bodies of land in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and indirectly in Missouri, which, in connection with its other important assets, made the trust one of great magnitude and responsibility. His duties in connection with it were performed by Mr. Sturges with marked fidelity.

In 1873, Buckingham bought a farm at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, separated only by the highway, from the tract owned by his brother Shelton. Ten years later he built upon this estate the house named "Fair Fields" which was thenceforth his home, and is still occupied by his family.

Mr. Sturges married in St. Louis, Missouri, October 18, 1865, Susan Rachel Benton, who was born in Springfield, Ohio, February 19, 1838, daughter of Oliver and Nancy (Evans) Benton of Springfield, Ohio, afterward of Wapello, Iowa. By her he had four children, all born in Chicago.

27 i BENTON STURGES, b. Aug. 15, 1866

28 ii CHARLES BENTON STURGES, b. Mar. 8; d. Mar. 31, 1868

THE NINE CHILDREN OF SOLOMON AND LUCY HALE STURGES
From a Photograph taken in Chicago, about 1868



29 iii KATY BENTON STURGES, b. Aug. 7, 1869

30 iv LILY BENTON STURGES, b. Sept. 21, 1871

7. ALBERT² STURGES, fourth son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, November 5, 1835, and died in Chicago, March 17, 1900. Arriving at the age of twenty-one, his father established him in business as proprietor of a flouring mill in Beverly, Ohio, on the Muskingum river, some forty miles below Zanesville. There he remained until 1859 when he removed to Chicago, to enter the service of Sturges, Buckingham & Co. A year later he became one of the partners of Solomon Sturges & Sons, with which firm and its successor, Solomon Sturges' Sons, he was actively connected until the business was closed in 1866. As related in the preceding sketch of Buckingham Sturges, Albert was connected with him at this period in establishing a banking house at the Union Stock Yards, and later was his partner in the Burlington Warehouse, and in building the Leavenworth, Lawrence & Galveston Railroad. Still later he devoted himself to the development of the San Felix mine, in the state of Sonora, Mexico, about twenty miles from the coast of the Gulf of California. While engaged in this enterprise he lived for a number of years at the mine, returning at intervals to visit his home and family.

Albert Sturges married in Zanesville, Ohio, March 5, 1856, Eliza Graham, daughter of Benjamin and Katharine (Large) Graham.¹ She was born in Zanesville, November 19, 1835; died in Chicago, July 17, 1887, and was interred in the cemetery at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Sturges had fifteen children, all born in Chicago:

31 i KATE GRAHAM STURGES, b. Feb. 23, 1857; d. Mar. 30, 1863

32 ii WASHINGTON GRAHAM STURGES, b. July 1, 1858

¹ Benjamin Graham was born in Richmond, Virginia, December 10, 1807, and died May 20, 1880. His wife, Katharine Large, whom he married in Beavertown, Ohio, March 21, 1833, was born in Hocking county, Ohio, December 23, 1817, and died, October 17, 1903.

- 33 iii FRANK HALE STURGES, b. Aug. 19, 1859; d. Feb. 8, 1863
- 34 iv ALBERT HALE STURGES, b. Jan. 30; d. May 13, 1861
- 35 v ARTHUR PERCY STURGES, b. Nov. 1, 1862; d. Feb. 8, 1863
- 36 vi MARY DELAFIELD STURGES, b. Mar. 23, 1864
- 37+ vii SOLOMON STURGES, b. Oct. 18, 1865
- 38 viii LUCY HALE STURGES, b. Dec. 27, 1866; d. May 18, 1868
- 39 ix HARRY HUMPHREY STURGES, b. Feb. 8; d. July 24, 1868
- 40 x ALLETTA STURGES, b. Sept. 18; d. Oct. 12, 1869
- 41 xi THEODORE STURGES, b. and d. June 9, 1871
- 42 xii FLORA STURGES, b. Nov. 15, 1872; d. Dec. 16, 1873
- 43 xiii IDA STURGES, b. Nov. 24; d. Nov. 28, 1873
- 44 xiv PAUL STURGES, b. Jan. 7; d. Jan. 17, 1875
- 45 xv DORA STURGES, b. April 21; d. Dec. 30, 1876

8. GEORGE ² STURGES, fifth son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, May 13, 1838, and died at "Snug Harbor," his summer residence in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, August 12, 1890. At the age of seventeen he came to Chicago with his father and took a position as clerk in the office of Sturges, Buckingham & Co. In this employment he continued about four years, until 1859, when, being ambitious to get into business on his own account, he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law Ebenezer Buckingham, and they leased the old Fulton elevator, located on the north bank of the Chicago river, westward from Rush street, and formed the firm of George Sturges & Co., warehousemen and buyers and shippers of grain. After about a year, Mr. Buckingham retired, and Mr. Sturges continued the business alone. He was successful from the outset, as, indeed, he was in all his undertakings. When the firm of Solomon Sturges' Sons was formed in 1863, to succeed Solomon Sturges & Sons (in which only Solomon, Buckingham and Albert were partners), George, together with Shelton and Frank, became partners and

continued in that relation for something more than a year, when they withdrew, leaving Buckingham and Albert to continue. George and Shelton then co-operated with their cousin Stephen Buckingham Sturges, a banker of experience and sagacity, in founding the Northwestern National Bank of Chicago, which opened its doors on August 15, 1864, at 61 Dearborn street. Buckingham Sturges was the president, Stephen Buckingham Sturges the vice-president, and George Sturges, the cashier. After a few months, Buckingham retired from the presidency and was succeeded by Colonel Charles Granville Hammond, a gentleman of high personal and financial station in the community, then long identified with the management of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and for a considerable period the general superintendent of its lines. Colonel Hammond's connection with the bank lasted only about a year. He then yielded the presidency to George Sturges. At or about the same time Stephen Buckingham Sturges resigned as vice-president and removed to Brooklyn, New York, where thenceforward he made his home; and John deKoven came into the bank as cashier. This was at the beginning of the year 1867. The same year the office of the bank was removed to room No. 1 in the new building of the Chamber of Commerce, southeast corner of LaSalle and Washington streets. This building was destroyed in the great fire of 1871, and for a time thereafter, the bank was installed temporarily in Dr. Reuben Ludlam's residence on Wabash avenue near Twelfth street. An office was then rented in the Lind Block, near Randolph street bridge. This was occupied until the Chamber of Commerce was rebuilt, when the bank returned to its former location. In the spring of 1876, more commodious quarters were secured in the Reaper Block at the northeast corner of Washington and Clark streets. These were occupied until May, 1888, when the growing business compelled another removal, this time to the Rookery Building, southeast corner of LaSalle and Adams streets.

In May, 1872, Mr. deKoven severed his connection with the bank to become cashier of the Merchants National Bank of

Chicago, and on April 7, 1873, was succeeded as cashier of the Northwestern National Bank, by James Dwight Sturges, son of Hezekiah and Maria (Allen) Sturges. James, who had been the general bookkeeper in the bank for a short time when it was first organized, but had left to take a position with Lewis, Ham & Co., continued as cashier until June 7, 1883, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Frederick William Gookin, who held the office until the bank was consolidated with the Corn Exchange National Bank of Chicago, in September, 1900.

Under the exceptionally capable management of George Sturges the Northwestern National Bank won an enviable reputation in the financial world. He early developed ability of a high order. Prudent, sagacious and far-seeing, he steadily built up a fortune and a well-deserved reputation as a banker. He was the prime mover in the establishment of the Chicago Clearing House, and gave himself little rest until the former burdensome and hazardous method of daily settlements between the banks—involving as it did, deliveries of checks by each bank, through its messengers, to each of the others, and separate equalizations in each case, in currency—was swept away. To facilitate the new order of things, he permitted the exchanges to be made, at first, in the office of the Northwestern National Bank, until a suitable room for the Clearing House could be secured. When, after the great Chicago fire, many of the banks in the city were in doubt as to the status of their bills receivable and uncertain as to the course to be pursued in dealing with their depositors, George Sturges for the Northwestern National Bank and Chauncey B. Blair for the Merchants National Bank boldly announced their intention of opening their doors and meeting all their liabilities on demand, whether the other banks did so or not. It required courage to take this stand at such a time, but it added much to the reputation of the two men, and the result amply justified the wisdom of the course they advocated. Again in 1873, when the banks were by the Chicago Clearing House Association, authorized and recommended to suspend currency payments, in view of the unsettled condition of financial affairs throughout the entire country, Mr. Sturges strenuously opposed

what he believed to be a mistaken and unwise policy. At his instance, the directors of the Northwestern National Bank, after a thorough examination of its condition and assets, "Resolved, That this bank is abundantly able, and will protect the rights of its customers, and will not suspend currency payments in any event."

After Mr. Sturges' death, his brother-in-law, Ebenezer Buckingham, succeeded him as President and continued in that capacity until September, 1900, when the Northwestern National Bank was consolidated with the Corn Exchange National Bank.

George Sturges married in Duncan's Falls, Ohio, October 16, 1862, Mary Delafield, daughter of John and Edith (Wallace) Delafield.¹ She was born in Memphis, Tennessee, July 30, 1842, and died in Coronado, California, January 15, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Sturges had nine children, all born in Chicago, except the youngest daughter, who was born in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

- 46 i WALLACE DELAFIELD STURGES, b. Sept. 27, 1863; d. Lake Geneva, Wis., Aug. 18, 1887, unmarried.
- 47 ii ALBERT STURGES, b. July 12, 1865; d. Lake Geneva, Wis., June 19, 1882
- 48+ iii ETHEL STURGES, b. Oct. 23, 1866
- 49+ iv MARION DELAFIELD STURGES, b. July 18, 1870
- 50+ v ROSALIE STURGES, b. Dec. 14, 1873
- 51+ vi HELEN STURGES, b. April 6, 1876
- 52+ vii CLARA DELAFIELD STURGES, b. Dec. 27, 1878
- 53 viii JULIA FLOYD STURGES, b. Aug. 4, 1879; d. Lake Geneva, June 7, 1881
- 54+ ix GEORGE STURGES, b. Mar. 6, 1884

The attachment between George Sturges and his wife was deep and tender, and she exercised a strong influence over him almost from the hour of their first acquaintance. She was a woman of rare strength and sweetness of character and great personal charm. These qualities and her never-failing thoughtful kindness and

¹ John Delafield was born in East St. George's, Bloomsbury, London, England, October 21, 1812. His wife Edith Wallace was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, April 23, 1811.

efforts to promote the happiness of others endeared her to all whose privilege it was to know her.

9. KATE ² STURGES, third daughter of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, July 9, 1840, and was educated at the seminary there. She was married in Chicago, June 18, 1863, to William Henry Benton, son of Oliver and Nancy (Evans) Benton of Springfield, Ohio, afterward of Wapello, Iowa. He was born in Springfield, December 21, 1821, and died in Chicago, August 15, 1898. At the time of his marriage he was a prominent merchant in St. Louis, Missouri, where he made his home until November, 1885, when he removed to Chicago.

Children, all born in St. Louis, except Lucy, who was born in Chicago:

- 55 i KATE STURGES BENTON, b. Mar. 29, 1864
- 56+ ii LUCY BUCKINGHAM BENTON, b. Sept. 15, 1865
- 57 iii WILLIAM HENRY BENTON, b. Aug. 30, 1868
- 58 iv STURGES BENTON, b. May 7; d. May 10, 1870
- 59 v JULIA HOLMES BENTON, b. Feb. 6, 1876
- 60 vi CAROLINE METCALF BENTON, b. Oct. 24, 1881

10. FRANK ² STURGES, sixth and youngest son of Solomon (1) and Lucy (Hale) Sturges, was born in Putnam, Ohio, October 10, 1842. In 1860, being then in his eighteenth year, he came to Chicago with his father, and for a short time was employed by Sturges, Buckingham & Co. as a junior clerk and messenger. When, a little later in the same year, the banking house of Solomon Sturges & Sons was established, he took a position in their office. This he held until 1863. In that year the firm was changed to Solomon Sturges' Sons, and, having arrived at the age of twenty-one, Frank became one of the partners, as originally provided by his father. About a year later he sold his interest in the firm to his brothers Buckingham and Albert, and became associated with Thomas S. Dickerson, under the firm name of Dickerson, Sturges & Co., wholesale dealers in metals, importers of tin plate and sheet iron, and manufacturers of stamped and japanned ware, at 199-201



THE STURGES MONUMENT
In Woodlawn Cemetery, Zanesville, Ohio



Randolph street. In 1865, Mr. Dickerson retired, and the business was continued by Mr. Sturges under the firm name of Frank Sturges & Co., Mr. Oliver H. Lee, Mr. William S. Potwin, and Mr. Anson C. Potwin joining him as co-partners. Shortly before the great Chicago fire of 1871 the firm name was changed to F. Sturges & Co. By that fire the firm suffered heavy losses, causing temporary embarrassment. Within a short time, however, the business had increased to larger proportions than before the catastrophe occurred, and in 1875 it was reorganized as the Chicago Stamping Company. Mr. Sturges was the president of this corporation until 1893, when he sold his stock and retired. Under its new management the company was not successful. In July, 1898, Mr. Sturges bought the property back. He then conducted the business in his own name until December, 1900, when the Sturges, Cornish & Burn Company was organized to take it over. A little later, Mr. Cornish retiring, the name was changed to the Sturges & Burn Manufacturing Company, of which Mr. Sturges is now (1907) the president.

Mr. Sturges married in Chicago, June 23, 1864, Janette Elizabeth Lee (known as "Lillie" Lee), who was born in Brooklyn, New York, January 7, 1846, daughter of Oliver Harrison and Janette (Parker) Lee of Chicago. They reside (1907) in Elmhurst, Illinois, which has been their home for many years.

Children, all born in Chicago:

- 61 + i LEE STURGES, b. Aug. 13, 1865
- 62 ii JANETTE LEE STURGES, b. Jan. 31, 1868
- 63 iii LUCY HALE STURGES, b. Dec. 15, 1870
- 64 iv JULIA LEE STURGES, b. April 15; d. Aug. 15, 1872

THIRD GENERATION

11. ALBERTA³ STURGES, daughter of William (2) and Bessie (McLeod) Sturges, was born in Chicago, September 17, 1877. She was married in St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London, England, July 25, 1905, to George Charles Montagu, M. P., of London, who was born December 29, 1874, son of Admiral Victor

Alexander Montagu (second son of John William, seventh Earl of Sandwich) by his wife the Lady Agneta Harriette York, second daughter of Charles Philip, fourth Earl of Hardwick. Mr. and Mrs. Montagu have one son:

- 65 i VICTOR ALEXANDER EDWARD PAULET MONTAGU, b. in London, at 12 Bruton street, May 22, 1906. At his christening, in one of the chapels of Westminster Abbey, Queen Alexandra was his godmother.

12. HOLLISTER ³ STURGES, son of William (2) and Bessie (McLeod) Sturges, was born in Chicago, June 14, 1879. He married in Washington, D. C., September 16, 1905, Jeanne Franks Steele, who was born January 5, 1884, daughter of Charles Stetson and Blanche (Whipple) Steele, and has issue:

- 66 i WILLIAM HOLLISTER STURGES, b. Germantown, Pa., Mar. 2, 1907

13. LUCY STURGES ³ POTWIN, eldest daughter of Charles Wolcott Potwin and Sarah Sturges (3) was born in Zanesville, Ohio, November 16, 1849, and was married in Zanesville, June 6, 1872, to Colonel Gilbert Dwight Munson, who was born in Godfrey, Illinois, September 26, 1840, son of Horace Dwight and Mary Burt (Griggs) Munson of Zanesville. At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 Mr. Munson enlisted as a private. In 1864 he was mustered out as Colonel, having served through the war under Generals Sherman and Grant. He then studied law at Columbia College, New York; is now (1907) a resident of Los Angeles, California.

Children:

- 67+ i SARAH MUNSON, b. May 12, 1873
68 ii ISABEL MUNSON, b. Zanesville, Sept. 5, 1874; d. Zanesville, Aug. 1880

14. JULIA MARSH ³ POTWIN, second daughter of Charles Wolcott Potwin and Sarah Sturges (3), was born in Zanesville, Ohio, September 26, 1851. She was married in Zanesville, Sep-

tember 25, 1873, to John Robb Holmes of St. Louis, Missouri, who was born in St. Louis, June 18, 1845, son of Robert and Charlotte (Powel) Holmes of St. Louis, and has issue:

- 69+ i ROBERT POTWIN HOLMES, b. July 21, 1874
- 70 ii JOHN ROBB HOLMES, b. July 5, 1877
- 71 iii JULIA HOLMES, b. Sept. 6, 1888
- 72 iv CARA HOLMES, b. Sept. 25, 1891; d. Sept. 19, 1893

15. CARA³ POTWIN, third daughter of Charles Wolcott Potwin and Sarah Sturges (3), was born in Zanesville, Ohio, November 18, 1855. She was married in Zanesville, September 6, 1876, to Charles Fisher Ellis of Helena, Montana, who was born in St. Louis in 1840, son of Charles Draper and Hannah Bradford (Fisher) Ellis, and has issue:

- 73 i CHARLES POTWIN ELLIS, b. St. Louis, Dec. 30, 1877; d. St. Louis, April 10, 1878
- 74 ii BRADFORD HALE ELLIS, b. St. Louis, July 18, 1879
- 75 iii LUCY POTWIN ELLIS, b. May 17, 1881; d. Helena, Montana, Oct. 16, 1890

16. CHARLES ALBERT³ POTWIN of Zanesville, Ohio, only son of Charles Wolcott Potwin and Sarah Sturges (3), was born in Zanesville, June 10, 1858. He married, 1st, in Zanesville, November 19, 1890, Adelaide Wheeler Stevens, daughter of Wheeler and Lucy (Beach) Stevens.¹ She was born in Zanesville, September 5, 1865, and died September 25, 1893. Mr. Potwin married, 2d, June 19, 1901, Marie Walker Delaplane, who was born in Circleville, Ohio, November 22, 1878, daughter of Jacob Hixon and Margaret Magdalene (Benford) Delaplane.²

No issue by either marriage.

¹ Wheeler Stevens was born in Chandlerville, Ohio, March 20, 1833, and died near Zanesville, September 2, 1902. His wife Lucy Beach, whom he married in Coal Run, Ohio, February 19, 1861, was born in Coal Run, August 30, 1837, and died near Zanesville, September 2, 1904.

² Jacob Hixon Delaplane was born in Yellow Bud, Ohio, March 12, 1846, and died in Circleville, Ohio, December 30, 1887. His wife Margaret Magdalene Benford, whom he married in Circleville, October 12, 1871, was born in Utica, Ohio, October 5, 1846.

17. KATE BENTON ³ POTWIN, fourth daughter of Charles Wolcott Potwin and Sarah Sturges (3), was born in Zanesville, Ohio, January 12, 1862. She was married, 1st, in Zanesville, October 22, 1885, to Frederic W. Malcolm, who died in New York city in February, 1898. By him she had one child:

76 i ALAINE MALCOLM, b. Zanesville, Dec. 2, 1886

Mrs. Malcolm was married, 2d, in Pueblo, Colorado, July 19, 1899, to Frederick O'Leary Buck, of Denver, Colorado, son of George Watson and Emma Maria (Williams) Buck, of Co. Norfolk, England, and has issue:

77 ii FREDERICK O'LEARY BUCK, JR., b. Aug. 26, 1902

18. ROWENA SPENCER ³ STURGES, eldest daughter of Shelton Sturges (4), was born in Duncan's Falls, Ohio, October 26, 1852, and was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, December 1, 1881, to Emerson Howard Brush, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, January 15, 1852, son of Joseph Beal and Sarah Southmaid (Atwater) Brush of New York city. Mr. and Mrs. Brush reside in Elmhurst, Illinois. They have no issue.

19. HELEN ³ STURGES, second daughter of Shelton Sturges (4), was born in Duncan's Falls, Ohio, July 30, 1854. She was married in Santa Barbara, California, June 20, 1878, to Alfred Henry Mulliken of Chicago, by whom she had issue:

78 i SHELTON STURGES MULLIKEN, b. Chicago, Mar. 3, 1879;
d. Chicago, Mar. 5, 1880

20. WILLIAM SPENCER ³ STURGES, eldest son of Shelton Sturges (4) was born in Duncan's Falls, Ohio, March 3, 1856. He married, September 17, 1892, Leonor de Savin, who was born August 2, 1856, daughter of Adolpho and Guadalupe (Cota) de Savin, and lives (1907) in Arivaca, Pima county, Arizona. No issue.

21. HAROLD ³ STURGES, second son of Shelton Sturges (4),



MONUMENT IN WOODLAWN CEMETERY, ZANESVILLE, OHIO
Erected by Solomon Sturges, to the Memory of his Ancestors

SOLOMON STURGES,
KILLED BY THE BRITISH,
AT THE BURNING OF FAIRFIELD CONN.
JULY 7, 1779.
AGED 86.

HE WAS AN ADEPT PATRIOT

HEZEKIAH, SON OF
SOLOMON STURGES,
A SOLDIER OF THE REVOLUTION,
DIED AT FAIRFIELD, CONN.
APRIL 1794 AGED 67 YRS

GINNY, SON OF
HEZEKIAH STURGES,
A SOLDIER OF THE REVOLUTION,
DIED AT FAIRFIELD, CONN.
MAY 1794 AGED 74 YRS

STURGES

was born in Duncan's Falls, Ohio, February 24, 1858, and is now (1907) engaged in mining in Mexico. He married in San Francisco, California, June 20, 1883, Malvena Emma Livingston, daughter of George Henry and Elizabeth Emma (Jarret) Livingston of St. Louis, Missouri, and has two children, both born in Santa Barbara, California:

79 i LIVINGSTON MONROE STURGES, b. April 10, 1885

80 ii ROWENA SPENCER STURGES, b. Sept. 22, 1887

37. SOLOMON³ STURGES of Chicago, fifth son of Albert Sturges (7) was born in Chicago, October 18, 1865, and was educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He began his business career as a broker in domestic exchange, between the banks in Chicago. About 1888 he formed a partnership with Charles A. Wilson under the firm name of Wilson & Sturges, stock and bond brokers. In 1896 this firm was dissolved by mutual consent and early in 1897 Mr. Sturges became a member of the stock brokerage house of Alfred L. Baker & Co. of Chicago. He married in Memphis, Tennessee, October 2, 1901, Mrs. Mary Estelle Biden, who was born October 11, 1877, daughter of Dominick d'Este and Catherine Campbell (Smyth) Dempsey. Mr. and Mrs. Sturges have no issue, but have adopted Mrs. Sturges' son by her first husband and have given him the name of

81 i PRESTON STURGES. He was born August 29, 1898, and was adopted in January, 1902

48. ETHEL³ STURGES, eldest daughter of George Sturges (8) was born in Chicago, October 23, 1866. She was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, October 3, 1888, to William Francis Dummer of Chicago, who was born in Beardstown, Cass county, Illinois, March 17, 1851, son of Judge Henry Enoch and Phebe (Van Ness) Dummer¹ of Jacksonville, Illinois.

¹ Henry Enoch Dummer and Phebe Van Ness were married in Beardstown, Illinois, January 16, 1840. Judge Dummer was descended from Richard Dummer who came to America from England in 1632 and settled first in Roxbury and later, near Newbury, Massachusetts.

Children:

- 82 i MARION DUMMER, b. Chicago, June 20, 1890
- 83 ii KATHARINE DUMMER, b. Chicago, Mar. 31, 1892
- 84 iii ETHEL STURGES DUMMER, b. Chicago, April 13, 1895
- 85 iv FRANCES DUMMER, b. Chicago, Dec. 24, 1899
- 86 v WILLIAM FRANCIS DUMMER, b. Coronado, Cal., Mar. 5, 1902; d. Lake Geneva, Wis., Aug. 18, 1902

These children live in Chicago on the quarter block where their mother, Ethel Sturges Dummer, was born; where their grandfather, George Sturges, and their great-grandfather, Solomon Sturges, lived. This is an unusual circumstance in such a new and stirring American city as Chicago.

49. MARION DELAFIELD ³ STURGES, second daughter of George Sturges (8), was born in Chicago, July 18, 1870. She was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, May 29, 1907, to Samuel Dauchy of Chicago, who was born in Troy, New York, September 28, 1865, son of George Kellogg and Lavinia (Otis) Dauchy of Chicago.

50. ROSALIE ³ STURGES, third daughter of George Sturges (8), was born in Chicago, December 14, 1873. She was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, June 9, 1898, to Hubbard Foster Carpenter of Chicago, who was born in Park Ridge, Illinois, September 29, 1874, son of George Benjamin and Elizabeth Curtis (Greene) Carpenter ¹ of Chicago, and has two children, both born in Chicago.

87 i MARY DELAFIELD CARPENTER, b. April 7, 1899

88 ii GEORGE STURGES CARPENTER, b. Jan. 22, 1901

51. HELEN ³ STURGES, fourth daughter of George Sturges

¹ George Benjamin Carpenter, head of the well-known house of George B. Carpenter & Co., ship chandlers, in which his son Hubbard is one of the partners, was born in Richmond, Ashtabula county, Ohio, March 13, 1834. His wife, Elizabeth Curtis Greene, whom he married in Pittsfield, New Hampshire, March 12, 1861, was born in Pittsfield, March 28, 1841, and died in Chicago, June 25, 1905.

(8), was born in Chicago, April 6, 1876. She was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, July 20, 1901, to her second cousin, Arthur DuBois, of New York city, who was born in West New Brighton, Staten Island, New York, January 12, 1877, son of Eugene and Anna Greenleaf (Brooks) DuBois of West New Brighton. Children, all born in West New Brighton, except Dorothy, who was born in Greenwich, Connecticut:

89 i JOHN DELAFIELD DuBOIS, b. Jan. 24, 1903

90 ii HELEN STURGES DuBOIS, b. Jan. 22; d. June 23, 1904

91 iii MARION STURGES DuBOIS, b. Dec. 6, 1905

92 iv DOROTHY DuBOIS, b. July 6, 1907

52. CLARA DELAFIELD³ STURGES, fifth daughter of George Sturges (8), was born in Chicago, December 27, 1878, and was married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, June 21, 1905, to William Templeton Johnson of New York city, who was born in West New Brighton, Staten Island, New York, August 31, 1877, son of Oliver Templeton and Caroline Sophia (Thomas) Johnson¹ of West New Brighton. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child:

93 i WINTHROP TEMPLETON JOHNSON, b. in West New Brighton, May 26, 1906

54. GEORGE³ STURGES, third and only surviving son of George Sturges (8), was born in Chicago, March 6, 1884, and was graduated from Yale University in 1906. He married in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, October 31, 1906, Lelia Clarissa Parker, who was born in Chicago, June 30, 1878, daughter of George Green and Inez Luella (Knapp) Parker of Chicago.

56. LUCY BUCKINGHAM³ BENTON, second daughter of William Henry Benton and Kate Sturges (9), was born in Chicago, September 15, 1865. She was married in Chicago, September 10, 1902, to Edward George Evans of Worcester, England, son of

¹ Oliver Templeton Johnson was born June 29, 1851; married June 9, 1875; died January 30, 1891.

Edward Robert and Clara (Glover) Evans of Worcester, and has issue:

- 94 i EDWARD BUCKINGHAM BENTON EVANS, b. Worcester, Mar. 12, 1904
- 95 ii WILLIAM BENTON EVANS, b. Worcester, June 10, 1905

61. LEE³ STURGES, only son of Frank Sturges (10) was born in Chicago, August 13, 1865, and was educated in Chicago and Philadelphia. He began his business career with the Chicago Stamping Company, of which he was for a time the Vice-President. He is now (1907) the Vice-President and Treasurer of the Sturges & Burn Manufacturing Company. He married at Alvanna Ranch, in Skiddy, Morris county, Kansas, October 1, 1890, Mary Allen Sullivant, who was born in Homer, Illinois, August 25, 1872, daughter of Joseph McDowell and Mary (Allen) Sullivant. They reside in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Children:

- 96 i MARY SULLIVANT STURGES, b. Sept. 2, 1891
- 97 ii FRANK STURGES, b. Sept. 14, 1893
- 98 iii LUCY HALE STURGES, b. Oct. 16, 1898

FOURTH GENERATION

67. SARAH MUNSON,⁴ daughter of Gilbert Dwight Munson and Lucy Sturges Potwin (13), was born in Zanesville, Ohio, May 12, 1873. She was married at the home of her uncle Ebenezer Buckingham in Lake Forest, Illinois, June 30, 1901, to A. Ernest Northcote of Santa Barbara, Cal., son of Lewis Stafford and Irma (Weguelin) Northcote, and has issue:

- 99 i LUCY ISABEL NORTHCOTE, b. May 8, 1902
- 100 ii BERTHA ELIZABETH NORTHCOTE, b. Aug. 16, 1904
- 101 iii OLIVER STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, b. Sept. 25, 1906

69. ROBERT POTWIN⁴ HOLMES, of Joplin, Missouri, eldest son of John Robb Holmes and Julia Marsh Potwin (14),

was born in St. Louis, Missouri, July 21, 1874. He married in Joplin, Missouri, June 7, 1899, Ann Picher, daughter of William Henry and Susan J. (Brummwell) Picher of Sedalia, Missouri, and has issue:

102 i ROBERT PICHER HOLMES, b. Joplin, Mar. 22, 1901

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